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MID & NORTH KENT EDITION

Issue no 468

More work needed to protect us from young criminals

By Marijke Cox

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

A DAMNING report into the county's youth offending work has revealed substantial improvements are needed to reduce risks to the public.

The inspection of Kent's Youth Offending Team (YOT) – where results were “disappointing” – also found that improvements were required to reduce the likelihood of reoffending by young people with a criminal history.

The paper was released by HM Inspectorate of Probation as Justice Secretary Kenneth Clarke spoke out about England's “broken penal system” and its “dreadful” record in preventing reoffending by criminals.

He said the system had failed to reha-

bilitate offenders after figures showed almost 75 per cent of those aged over 18 charged after last month's riots had previous convictions.

Mr Clarke said the civil unrest – which could end up costing Kent Police £1m due to disturbances in Medway and because officers were sent to the riots in London – had highlighted an urgent need for penal reform to stop reoffending among a “feral underclass”.

The inspection of Kent's YOT focused on safeguarding of young people, public protection, and reoffending work, and showed improvements were needed.

Every area of England and Wales have YOTs to deal with young people who offend or are at risk of doing so.

Kent has five area teams aligned with

Continued on page 2



A BONNY BABY

LITTLE CUTIE: Meet the latest new addition to the Howletts family **SEE INSIDE**

ADOPTION

Cash concern hits care kids

MONEY worries have been blamed for a drop in the number of people adopting children living in care.

Officials at Kent County Council have vowed to extend its publicity campaign so potential parents know about the financial help available to them for adopting. **PAGE 5**

POLICE

Watchdog in spending row

A political row has hit the county's police watchdog, which has been accused of using taxpayers' cash to campaign against government reforms.

A complaint against Kent Police Authority chairwoman Ann Barnes has sparked an internal investigation. **PAGE 10**

SPORT

Kent ready for historic game

KENT will host the first ever day-night LV= County Championship game next week, where a pink ball will also feature.

The initiative is designed to make the game more accessible to cricket fans usually unable to watch due to scheduling during the week. Play is from 2-9pm. **PAGE 86**

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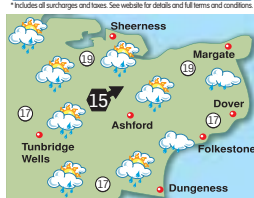
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CONTACTS
 Editor: Ian Patel
 Email: ian.patel@archant.co.uk
 Address: Apple Barn, Smeeth, TN25 6SS
 Editorial: News: 01303 817100
 Leisure: 01303 817200
 Sport: 01303 817183
 Email: editorial@kosmedia.co.uk
 Advertising: Jobs/Notices: 01303 817040
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YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE

Some youngsters' needs not recognised or addressed

Continued from front page

police and local authorities, two specialist countywide teams, and a headquarters at Maidstone. Some 750 young people are supervised by the Kent Youth Offending Service at any one time.

HM Assistant Chief Inspector, Julie Fox, said while the work they carried out was done "well enough" the needs of some groups of children and young people were not recognised or addressed.

"This has led to some interventions not being as effective as they could have been," she said. "Kent YOT had previously identified areas for development in the provision of education, training and employment, substance misuse and accommodation needs. We saw initial indications of improvement during this inspection.

"We also found substantial work was needed to ensure the quality and timeliness of assessments of risk of harm to others and vulnerability improved.

"Too often, known factors that should have been used to assess the potential for risk of harm to others and to the individual were not seen as relevant."

Scores indicating the percentage of work that had met a sufficiently high level of quality were below the national average in all three areas.

Safeguarding, which looks to protect the young person, was measured at 59 per cent, nine per cent below average; risk of harm, which outlines how youth offending teams are working to protect the public from offenders, was 53 per cent, 10 per cent lower than the national average; and likelihood of reoffending, at 68 per cent, was two per cent

off the 70 per cent national average.

Ms Fox added: "Overall, we consider this a disappointing set of results."

The report stated that "substantial" improvement was required in both safeguarding and risk of harm to others, with "moderate" improvement needed in work to stop reoffending.

Tory MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey, Gordon Henderson, said he hoped improvements would be made following the release of the report, which examined a sample of 85 past and present cases in Kent.

He said: "It is slightly worrying to see the low scores awarded to the Kent YOT. However, I am pleased the need for improvement has been recognised and hope the inspector's recommendations will be actioned as soon as possible."

"It is important that we have effective

services available which support young people to keep them on the straight and narrow and not to reoffend."

Kent County Council cabinet member for customer and communities Cllr Mike Hill, said the council accepted that more needed to be done to improve the quality and timeliness of work. But he said KCC was pleased effective work to reduce re-offending had been recognised with more than 50 per cent of sampled cases showing a reduction in frequency and seriousness of offending.

He said: "We do recognise the critical nature of the work needed to safeguard children and young people. Work by the Kent Youth Offending Service to address the risk of harm is also a factor in preventing reoffending and we will work with our partners to make sure there is a better understanding of these issues."

CRIME

Memory retrieval techniques help jail church worker who abused boy in 1995

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

A FORMER church worker who indecently assaulted a 12-year-old boy more than 10 years ago has been jailed after a police investigation using special memory retrieval techniques.

Peter James Stewart, 39, from Andover in Hampshire, was convicted of four counts of indecent assault following a seven-day trial at Canterbury Crown Court.

On Tuesday he was sentenced to two years in prison.

The sex attacks took place in 1995 while Stewart was a youth pastoral assistant at St Mary Bredin Church in Nunery Fields, Canterbury.

His schoolboy victim attended a youth group attached to the Charismatic Evangelical Anglican church.

The sentence was the culmination of a long and detailed investigation by the East Kent Public Protection Unit, based at Canterbury Police Station.

Det Con Richard Allen, said: "Stewart always denied these allegations, which meant his victim had to go through the trauma of a trial."

A historic child abuse investigation has particular challenges for police – not least taking statements from people more than a decade after the events in question.

DC Allen said: "We used the 'enhanced cognitive interview', which uses focused memory retrieval and contextual reinstatement techniques in order to maximise the quality and quantity of the victim's recollection about people, locations and events.

"It also involves the victim exploring those memories from different perspectives in order for them to remember the smallest details that they might not otherwise have recalled.

"One of the offences took place at a house in Canterbury and, despite the years that had passed, the victim was able to describe the exterior of the house and the bedroom where he was taken in some detail.

"Stewart claimed the victim had never been in the room so it was vital to the investigation that we located the house and were able to prove the victim had been there.

"Externally the appearance of the house had changed but inside the bedroom the furniture was still the same so we were able to prove beyond doubt that the victim had been in the room, contrary to Stewart's claims."

DC Allen paid tribute to the victim, who is now 29, saying said: "He reported the offences to the police not because he wanted justice for himself but because he felt he had a duty to protect other children.

"It was a selfless and brave decision and I commend him for that.

"I hope this sentence shows people that Kent Police will work tirelessly to bring sex offenders to justice, no matter how long ago the crimes were committed."

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ATTACKER: Peter Stewart abused a young member of a church group

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HEALTH

Medical chiefs vow to search out any bogus health workers

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

HEALTH bosses investigating an unqualified nurse who treated more than 1,400 patients say they are unsure if other non-trained staff are working in Kent.

Denise Stewart, 46, who performed 341 smear tests and 1,103 vaccinations over the course of four years at GP surgeries in Medway, is currently on bail after being arrested on suspicion of fraud.

Police refused to confirm suggestions she may have used somebody else's PIN – provided by the Nursing and Midwifery Council as proof of identification – to dupe officials into believing she had the necessary qualifications.

Dr James Thallon, medical co-director at NHS Kent and Medway, said he did not know if any other staff were performing duties above what they have been trained for.

"Clearly that's a question we need to know the answer to," he said. "We don't believe there is anyone else practicing for a role for which they



are not qualified, but we have not yet satisfied ourselves that that is the case.

"Only a foolish person would say it's impossible – of course it's possible. Our reputation has been damaged by this and we are taking it with the utmost importance."

Dr Thallon said the primary care trust had written to affected patients to invite them to be seen again, but added there was nothing to suggest there had been any problems with the treatment they received.

There have also been no complaints about the nurse at any stage during her employment.

Tabitha Rayner, 22, from Chatham, was among those who received a letter from the trust after her three-year-old son Luke was vaccinated by Mrs Stevens in 2008.

She told the BBC: "I'm extremely concerned about my son's welfare. Even though they say there is likely to be nothing to worry about, I still have my doubts."

"My son has had problems with pains in his legs and gets tired very quickly. I'm left wondering whether these problems are linked to the injections."

Mrs Stevens, who resigned from her job last year and now lives in Brecon, Mid Wales, has a background as a healthcare assistant but gained a job as a registered nurse without the appropriate qualifications.

She worked at four GP surgeries in Medway between August 2006 and September last year.

These were Dr SKC Patel and partners at 114 Woodside, Wigmore; Dr SB Bhasme at 19 Railway Street, Gillingham; Dr BN Singh at Brompton Medical Centre; and Dr SS Aly and PB Raval, formerly of New Road, Chatham.

■ **Patients who have not received a letter from NHS Kent and Medway have been assured they do not need to do anything further, but those still concerned can call the helpline on 0345 6029904.**

NEWS IN BRIEF

➔ Future of forests visit

EXPERTS from the Independent Forestry Panel helping to decide the future of more than 250,000 acres of public woodland following a U-turn on proposals to privatise forests are coming to Bedgebury National Pinetum on September 15-16. Earlier this year, the Government abandoned plans to sell Forestry Commission land. Other Forestry Commission land in Kent includes Hempsted near Benenden, Clowes Wood in Canterbury, and King's Wood in Challock, near Ashford.

➔ Landmark hotel sale

HOTEL, restaurant and pub chain Thorley Taverns has sold one of its best known sites in Thanet to rival Shepherd Neame.

The Faversham-based brewery this week acquired the Fayreness Hotel in Kingsgate for an undisclosed sum.

The 29-bedroom hotel occupies an enviable position, with spectacular sea views over Botany Bay and close to the sandy beaches of Kingsgate Bay and Joss Bay.

➔ Backing for reform MP

KENT Tories have thrown their weight behind MP Greg Clark amid claims he had lost their support in the row over Government planning reforms.

Planning minister Mr Clark has locked horns with the National Trust and the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England who want a Government U-turn. Now officers of the Tunbridge Wells Conservative Association have written a letter backing Mr Clark.

FILM

Director's animalistic film of Bronte classic comes with a curse

AN ACCLAIMED Kent film director has unveiled a gritty and brutal adaptation of Emily Bronte's moorland classic *Wuthering Heights* at the Venice Film Festival.

Using largely unknown actors, Oscar-winning director Andrea Arnold created a raw, dark version of the windswept romance, where she chose a black actor to play the lead character of Heathcliff.

The film, which was premiered in Venice, is far removed from previous adaptations of the period drama with profanities littering the script and race playing a major part.

Speaking at the film festival, the Dartford-born director told reporters: "I really wanted to honour Bronte."

"*Wuthering Heights* is a strange, dark and profound book and I wanted to honour that spirit."

"I made decisions that felt true to me but also true to the spirit of the book."

Arnold used a hand-held camera to shoot the film, with close ups of animals and the windswept moors.

"The characters are defined by nature and by this very wild, rugged landscape where



BLEAK LANDSCAPE: Director Andrea Arnold (above) and James Howson (left) who plays Heathcliff in her new version of the classic *Wuthering Heights*

they live. That's why the film feels animalistic at times. But when you get right down to it, we are all basically animals," she said.

Arnold, who wrote and directed the Bafta award-winning *Fish Tank*, Cannes Jury Prize-winning *Red Road*, and Oscar-winning *Wasp*, much of which was set in Dartford, used mostly unknown actors, with the exception of *Skins* star Kaya Scodelario, who plays Cathy.

The film sees the classic

story recreated as a race drama with Heathcliff, a poor young black boy, taken from the streets of Liverpool by a farmer to Yorkshire where he is racially abused by the white community, with the exception of his beloved Cathy, the farmer's daughter.

Arnold, who is known for her gritty, raw films, said: "Every film is like a journey and this one was longer than most."

"It's been a very difficult film in every way. At times it was almost like the film had a curse on it."



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Welcome to more

CHILDREN IN CARE

Action promised to stop adoption cash concerns

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

MONEY troubles are blamed for a 12 per cent drop in the number of people inquiring about adopting children in care.

According to Kent County Council's annual adoption report, just 482 prospective parents applied in 2010-11, compared to 547 the year before.

Social care chiefs believe the state of the economy has affected people's confidence in starting a family, adding that looked-after children are now spending an average of two-and-a-half years in care.

Cllr Jenny Whittle – cabinet member for specialist children's services – admitted the figures were of serious concern to the authority.

She said: "Every child needs a stable, loving home, and the worst of all worlds is to leave a child languishing in care when an adoptive place is the best possible solution. If there is a

suitable home for them they need to go through the process as soon as possible and not over the course of two-and-a-half years.

"I can understand the economic climate has an effect, but how many people realise they may qualify for a means-tested adoption allowance?

"There's lots of financial support and training on offer, and what I don't think we do enough of is market what's available and what a rewarding experience it can be to offer a child a home.

"We need to pursue a much more aggressive marketing strategy. I've brought it up with officers and we will be doing much more over the next few months to recruit adopters.

"It needs to be an ongoing campaign and not just something based around National Adoption Week."

Just 44 adopters were approved in 2010-11 compared to 50 the year before, with 72.9 per cent of children given

a new home within 12 months of being put up for adoption – a figure described as "poor" by the council.

Of the 40 adopters recruited over the last 12 months, one was single and another was a same-sex relationship.

Former Barnardo's chief executive Martin Narey – now the Government's 'adoption czar' – is currently reviewing Kent's adoption service and will file a report before the end of the year.

Cllr Whittle, who asked Mr Narey to carry out the review before he landed his new role in July, is also setting up a working party to identify ways to speed up the system.

She said: "We need to make sure we've got a really good working relationship with the courts, which we don't currently have. We need to sit down with magistrates, judges and senior members of staff to thrash out the issues and find out what's impeding the



adoption process. We all want the same thing, which is to get looked-after children into loving homes and remove these unnecessary delays."

HELP THEM:

More adults are needed to adopt children living in care

NEWS IN BRIEF

➔ 999 services merger

KENT Police and Kent Fire and Rescue Service are to share a control room to deal with 999 emergency calls.

KFRS will move into the police control room from February, 2012.

KFRS director of operations Steve Demetriou, said: "As far as the public are concerned they will notice no difference to the service we deliver, however behind the scenes we will have a much more resilient and effective operation."

➔ 9/11 attack memorial

ROCHESTER Cathedral commemorated Friday's 10th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks with an installation in front of the High Altar.

A pile of dust and rubble built on the table top of the cathedral's mensa altar and overshadowed by two requiem candles symbolising the twin towers of the New York World Trade Centre were the focus for remembrance.

The image was transmitted to a TV screen by the Great West Doors.

➔ Crossing toll petition

AN e-petition calling on the Government to scrap tolls on the Dartford crossing has been launched on the Government's website.

If the petition gathers 100,000 signatures it could force a parliamentary debate on the issue.

It calls on the government to "keep the promises of previous administrations and remove the toll charges imposed".

See epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/1878.

SEA LIFE

Coastline animals and plants in line for extra legal protection

MARINE life could be given special protection after large stretches of Kent's coastline and estuaries were named as final contenders for conservation zone status.

Seabeds in the large estuaries of the Thames, Medway and Swale, and coastal areas around east and south Kent have been selected as potential Marine Conservation Zones, which are to be introduced by Government next year.

The Balanced Seas project, which is being led by Natural England, looks to protect nationally important wildlife, habitats and geology.

Sea-users and organisations involved in the selection process have published their final recommendations for Marine Conservation Zones, to be reviewed by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee and Natural England before being put forward to Government next year.

Balanced Seas project board chairwoman, Linda Davies, said the recommendations in the South East were a major step "in the quest for a secure legacy for our fantastic seas".

She said: "It is a huge credit to the many stakeholders who have devoted copious time and energy to unlocking knowledge of the wild-life and activities going on above and beneath the surface, and to conclude as far as they are able to, their recommendations that will balance the conservation benefits of Marine Conservation Zones with socio-economic activities."



Picture: JOLYN CHESWORTH

UNDERWATER BEAUTY: The stalked jellyfish

The seabeds of estuaries in the Thames, Medway and Swale are home to a host of marine life, including one of the largest populations of the rare tentacled lagoon worm, near Greenhithe, and nursery areas for smelt and eel. If the recommended zone is introduced along the stretch of water, the once-important oyster and mussel fisheries by Swale could also be revived.

In east and south Kent, the zone status would allow plants and animals around the Thanet coast and from Deal to Folkestone special protection. Rare stalked jellyfish and rosworm reefs are among the species on the stretch of coastline.

See www.balancedseas.org for full details.



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AIRPORT

Munitions shipwreck could sink Boris Island for good

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

UNEXPLODED wartime bombs deteriorating within a sunken ship could put Boris Johnson's controversial plans for

a Thames Estuary airport up in smoke.

The wreck of the SS Richard Montgomery, which contains 1,400 tons of deadly munitions, has been grounded on a sandbank off the Isle of Shep-

pey since August 20, 1944, and is rarely examined for fear it might self-destruct and kill thousands of people.

Already described as a "major obstruction" in a study commissioned by Mr Johnson,

a new report into the safety of the vessel by the Marine and Coastguard Agency has cast further doubt on the Mayor of London's much-criticised plans for a new airport to replace Heathrow.

It says: "While much of the hull appears to be deteriorating relatively slowly, one of the main concerns is that these specific areas of accelerated deterioration might lead to structural collapse or allow the escape of munitions."

"Although some munitions studies have been carried out, these are not sufficient to predict with any certainty what the effect of significant structural collapse would be on the munitions cargo."

"There may come a point when the risks associated with non-intervention will become greater than the risks associated with a carefully-planned intervention operation."

"While significant structural collapse does not appear to be



DANGER: While not at immediate risk of structural collapse, the SS Richard Montgomery is a 'major obstruction' to the airport plan

imminent, surveys suggest this prospect is getting closer."

Mr Johnson believes a £40 billion floating airport could be built in the Thames Estuary within 10 years, but his plans have been blasted by politicians, environmentalists and members of the public alike.

Sittingbourne and Sheppey Tory MP Gordon Henderson is among those who oppose the 'Boris Island' plan, and said the location of the SS Richard Montgomery was one of many reasons why it should be rejected.

He said: "The ship is not something that's always on my constituents' minds, but it's on mine because I have a responsi-

bility to ensure they are not put at risk in any shape or form."

"The location of the Montgomery is a small part of the overall objections we have to the airport plan. The biggest is that if Boris Johnson believes it's necessary to close down Heathrow and move it to the Thames Estuary, then it must be because he believes Heathrow has a negative impact on the quality of life of people in west London."

"If that's the case then why would we want the same problems? If we forget that primary objection then we lose that very powerful argument."

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LITERATURE

Literary greats helping to make Kent the best-read county in the UK

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

BOOKWORMS enjoying the works of authors including Dickens and Chaucer have helped Kent become the most well-read county in the whole of the UK.

The Garden of England is the only county to have three towns – Sevenoaks (third), Rochester (fourth), and Canterbury (seventh) – in a top-10 list of towns and cities where the most books are purchased from online retailer Amazon.

Tonbridge also makes an appearance at number 19 on the league table.

Amazon books manager Darren Hardy said: "Kent is the county with the most towns and cities in the top 10, which is perhaps unsurprising considering its literary heritage."

"Canterbury's religious significance was the inspiration behind Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, and Charles Dickens featured the scenery of Kent towns, including Rochester, in his works."

The top-10 list was published using data from all book sales since New Year's Day, on a per capita basis in towns and cities with more than 20,000 residents.

Godfrey George – manager of Baggins Book Bazaar in Rochester, the largest second-hand bookstore in England – believes the county's well-

read status might have something to do with the fact there are several universities based here.

"It might just be a question of intelligence," he said. "If we didn't have so many students living in Kent then we might not have any towns or cities in the top 10."

"Having said that, Kent has produced a lot of famous authors so perhaps the history and scenery of the county inspires people to both write and enjoy literature."

Mr George's student theory may also explain why Cambridge – home to the world's best university according to a league table published this week – ranks at number two on the well-read top 10.

The nearby market town of Huntingdon is top.

But according to John Morrison of the Sevenoaks Literary Celebration – which runs from September 19-October 5 – money is also a contributing factor.

He said: "Sevenoaks is a middle-class commuter town inhabited by people who are generally prosperous and have money for books, and that isn't the case everywhere in the country."

And the Folkestone Book Festival has gone from strength to strength in recent years, and this year's event will run from November 4-12. Authors who have attended in the past include Martina Cole, Sir David Frost, and Lord Hattersley.



INSPIRATION: Charles Dickens (above) and Geoffrey Chaucer, two of Kent's famous authors



WILDLIFE

Hunt for rare birds

A bird that has virtually disappeared from woodlands in Kent is to be monitored by a panel of experts charting the UK's rarest breeding birds.

The willow tit was widespread in Kent, but sightings have all but ceased.

The Rare Breeding Birds Panel has announced it will now be collating records of willow tits nesting in Britain.

They will also be looking for the lesser spotted woodpecker, whose numbers have also dropped alarmingly.

Simply amazing.



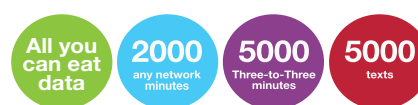
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CRIME

Cannabis factory raid

POLICE say they have shut down a cannabis factory in a home where they found drugs with a street value of £9,000.

A 56-year-old man and a 33-year-old woman, both from Maidstone, were arrested after mature cannabis plants were discovered growing at a residential property in Grecian Street in town.

The pair were released on bail to report back to police on October 27.

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UNDER FIRE: KPA chairwoman Ann Barnes

LAW AND ORDER

Police watchdog under fire for using taxpayer cash to attack reforms

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

ANGRY Tories have blasted Kent Police Authority for using taxpayers' money to attack Government policy.

Over the past year the KPA has issued a number of press releases criticising plans for elected police commissioners, with the most recent describing them as "naive and disastrous".

But visitors to the ConservativeHome blogging site have accused the authority – which has also received a complaint about comments made by chairwoman Ann Barnes in her personal blog – of breaching publicity guidelines by using public money for political campaigning.

The website's local government editor Harry Phibbs wrote: "Turkeys don't vote for Christmas, so on one level the statement Kent Police Authority opposes the abolition of the Kent Police Authority is unremarkable."

"However, the intemperate and highly political language used is not something that should have been put out at taxpayers' expense."

"Labour councillors are entitled to use their own money to campaign against Government spending cuts. When they carry out such cam-

paing at council taxpayers' expense it is quite wrong."

A visitor to the site, Richard Coates, added: "Neither a council or a government department would get away with this."

KPA chairwoman Ann Barnes, is one of seven independents serving the authority alongside seven Tories, one Labour and one Lib Dem.

Conservative member Paulina Stockell – also chairwoman of Kent County Council – said the majority of those on the authority were opposed to elected police commissioners and happy for their views to be reflected via press releases.

The code of practice on local authority publicity – which forms part of the Local Government Act 1986 – also applies to police authorities.

It states that publicity which comments on central Government policies should be "objective, balanced, informative and accurate" and that publicity touching on controversial issues should be "approached with particular care and should not over-simplify facts, issues and arguments".

KPA chief executive Graham Hooper said: "Recent comments by Mrs Barnes in her personal blog are subject to a complaint. It would therefore be inappropriate for the authority to make any statement about this matter at this time."

CHARITY



TEE-HEE: Dave's charity has raised more than £2m

All-star charity event will do a 'hole' lot of good

FUNNY MAN Dave Lee is hosting his annual charity golf tournament with ITV's Family Fortunes host Vernon Kay and Lock Stock actor PH Moriarty among the stars invited to step up to the tee.

The all-star event, sponsored by Archant KOS Media, is taking place on Sunday, September 18, at Chart Hills Golf Club in Biddenden, near Ashford.

Proceeds will go to Kent comic Dave Lee's Happy Holidays charity, which raises money to send sick and under-privileged children on holiday or days out.

Other celebrities invited to take part in the golf tournament include former England footballer Luther Blissett, former Liverpool star Neil Ruddock, and ex-England and Kent cricketer Martin Saggers.

Dave's comedy pals Bobby Davro and Bradley Walsh are also due to be taking part alongside snooker legend John Virgo and Gillingham manager Andy Hessenthaler.

A charity auction will take place, including a one-off wooden rocking chair created by Dover resident George Dean. Previous rocking chairs made by Mr Dean and donated to charity have attracted bids of up to £11,000.

The Happy Holidays charity has raised £2 million since it was launched 15 years ago.

Lee, who lives in Canterbury, said: "I never thought we'd ever reach the £1m mark so it was unbelievable when we hit £2m. I hope we can raise lots more at this charity golf day."

Dave Lee's Happy Holidays owns five holiday homes in Camber Sands and has sent more than 45,000 under-privileged children and their families to places such as Tenerife, Disneyland Paris, and Disney World in Florida. The charity also sends 1,250 children to a pantomime every year.

The cost to enter a golf team of three is £750 with a celebrity player drawn for each team on the day. Admission to the event, which starts at 10am, is £5 and free for children, with free parking.

See www.daveleehappyholidays.org.uk.

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*“We would like to say a huge thank you. Jack came to you less than a year ago with all C grades at AS. He now has A*AB in his A levels with a place confirmed at Warwick. We are absolutely delighted – as is he! It is particularly special for us because we met there – and got places with lower grades!”*

Dr Carrie Weston, parent of Jack, formerly of Gravesend Boys Grammar.

RIC students are celebrating places at some of the UK's top universities including three at Cambridge. Star performers include those who transferred to RIC after disappointing results elsewhere and retakers.

Aspiring vet Amelia Liddell, formerly of King's Canterbury has a place at The Royal Veterinary College. Her 2011 RIC classmates included Asha Chohan who has a place at Aston for Optometry and Louisa Garcia, from King's Rochester who will study History of Art at Birmingham



There were 14 A*s in Maths this year at RIC. Amongst those who won the top grade were Jean Michel Hurst from Cooling. He is going

to Imperial to read Physics alongside Tom Parsons, formerly of Oakwood Park Grammar, who has opted for Computer Science. Guy Booth who studied A levels at RIC after GCSEs at Gad's Hill has a place for Physics at Exeter. Four of RIC's star students have places at Nottingham University. Tim Turvey formerly of TWGSB will read Mechanical Engineering. Seb Lundberg who transferred from Colfe's will study Theology. Vicky Piper who came to RIC from Epsom College has chosen Philosophy and Sophie Dunk from Gravesend Grammar, Zoology.

“This is just to say a very big ‘thank you’ to all of my son's tutors for your superb guidance, expert management of the application for Law, unfailing kindness,

patience and brilliant teaching. You taught him to think properly, to write clearly and fulfilled every promise you made to us.” Judith Wickham, parent of Alistair, formerly Invicta Grammar.

“We are delighted with Roshni's results and her place to study Medicine at St George's. This is our second daughter to attend Rochester Independent College. Our older daughter Sarina is in her final year of Dentistry at Queen Mary.” Mr and Mrs Patel, parent of Roshni, formerly Gravesend Grammar.



RIC scooped two Good Schools Guide awards for our record breaking English A level results - the best point score of any independent school in the UK.



Amazing grades, great memories



Cecelia Johnson, like so many 16 year olds across Kent, was anxiously awaiting her GCSE results this year. Uniquely however, her results were as much a landmark in the history of her school as they were important to her. While RIC students have been winning top GCSE and A level results since 1984, they have traditionally joined the Star Hill College for short intensive courses. Cecelia is the first pupil to take her GCSEs at RIC after joining at the age of 11 in Year 7.

Cecelia is celebrating 12 top GCSE results, including double A* success in English and English Literature which she is continuing at A level in RIC's sixth form, alongside Fine Art, History of Art and Sociology. Cecelia says: *“I love it here and can't imagine being at school anywhere else.”*

While Cecelia was the pioneer, RIC is now a first choice, non selective alternative for children in year 7. They come to us at the age of 11 from a wide variety of educational backgrounds. Some have always been in private education and join direct from prep. Others are from local primary schools. Some have passed the 11+ but choose RIC. Some have narrowly missed a grammar school place, others have opted not to take the test altogether.

For all, we offer a happy and lively atmosphere where academic success follows naturally from students being settled in their environment and engaged by enthusiastic and talented teachers. We are small enough to get to know everyone very well but large enough for good friendship groups to be formed. All class sizes are small, the average being 8.

While RIC students have ventured in the past as far as Thailand on student exchanges, 2011 saw our first trip south of the equator. A dozen of our intrepid Lower Sixth students put their long summer break to good use on an African adventure they raised the money to fund. The students travelled and trekked through Malawi and Zambia, doing community volunteer work and learning how to live and work together.

One of the most exciting extra curricular contributions comes from the Duke of Edinburgh award and involves students from Year 9 upwards, through the Lower and Middle Schools into the Sixth Form.

As well as trips locally and to Wales and Scotland students have been involved in volunteering and conservation projects. They participate in sports and music, and are currently creating an outdoor

classroom. This has involved investment and partnership with Kent Wildlife Trust, giving students the opportunity to work with adults from external agencies and establish a project that will encourage wildlife, have long-term conservation value, and benefit current and future students at the College.





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Peter Read, Kent Independent Education Advice



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"RIC is such a friendly place. My teachers are great and they make the lessons really interesting. There is much more discussion and practical work which is fun. It's informal but we still get lots of work done. I love being in the labs particularly when we do experiments. I want to be a GP when I grow up, working with patients and helping them." Caitlin, year 7, joined RIC from King's Rochester.

The first free schools are opening their doors for the start of term this week. RIC has been offering a great education and a world of difference from intimidatingly large, factory-model secondary schools since 1984.

Student needs are more clearly recognised and focused upon in a smaller school setting. In class sizes that average 8, pupils prosper. A smaller school size allows more opportunity for our teachers to work closely together and share information. It allows us to provide an unparalleled level of feedback to parents in regular email reports. We focus on ensuring the children who join us are happy and supported towards academic success and personal confidence.

We don't put them through the ordeal of the 11+ or an entrance exam, believing everyone is capable of succeeding in the right environment. The expectation is that all will grow in confidence and self esteem, do well academically and have great memories of school life.

Children at RIC benefit from what Ofsted describes as, "outstanding spiritual, moral and cultural development." They enjoy a colourful range of sports and clubs. Music, Art, Film and Drama, both in and out of the classroom, give a creative buzz. They perform well at GCSE but do not take an unnecessary number of exams. No one needs 16 GCSEs - half that number in the right subjects is good enough for the best universities.



RIC students aim high, work hard and behave well but are not hot housed, unduly pressured or inappropriately accelerated. As the momentum in Kent seems to be moving towards a 'bigger is best' approach and many schools are merging to create monster sized academies we are determined to continue demonstrating that small schools work best for many years to come.

"The teaching at Rochester is rigorous and tailored to the best possible exam results. It offers a broad education, combining its original focus on getting students into competitive courses such as medicine and dentistry with a new emphasis on the creative arts."

Liz Lightfoot, The Independent.

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News

for more pictures and news go to www.kentnews.co.uk

FESTIVAL

Debate on Big Society

KCC leader Paul Carter, the Bishop of Dover Trevor Willmott and Visit Kent chairman Amanda Cottrell, will join with policy campaigners for a debate about the Big Society at Canterbury Cathedral on Friday, September 16, as part of 'The Gathering', a two-day Christian festival.

Information and tickets for The Gathering at www.canterburydiocese.org/thegathering.

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ANIMAL EXPORT

Government's online petition used in fight to stop export of live animals

By Mathew Beech

mathew.beech@archant.co.uk

CAMPAIGNERS calling for an end to the export of live animals through the Port of Ramsgate have published a petition on the Government's website.

It calls for port owners to have the right to refuse shipment of live farm animals overseas on the grounds of animal welfare. It also wants an eight-hour limit for animal transportation, and demands that existing legislation be policed more rigorously by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and local authorities.

If more than 100,000 signatures and names are collected, the issue will be debated in the House of Commons and activists hope the laws in relation to the trade will be changed.

Thanet District Council, which runs the port,

has made it clear it would like to stop the trade in sheep and calves, but has no legal basis to act.

Campaign organiser and Thanet Labour councillor, Ian Driver, said: "This is a unique and exciting chance for the people of Thanet to play a role in changing the law of the land."

"I call on every man woman and child in Thanet to log on and sign our petition against this cruel and barbaric trade. I am sure public outrage about this awful trade will mean that we will collect the 100,000 signatures quickly."

The campaign is supported by the RSPCA and Compassion in World Farming, which are asking their members to sign the online petition. Campaigners are hoping for high-profile support for their petition from celebrities like Joanna Lumley, Paul O'Grady, Tracey Emin and Morrissey.

The National Farmers Union believes a change to the law is unnecessary because the animals

are well treated and any restriction on journey times threatens the livelihood of UK farmers.

A NFU spokesman said: "The animals that cross any national border are covered by more inspections and regulations than any other animals. They have to be veterinary inspected before travelling and at loading."

"The British dairy farmer is struggling to make any money and nearly all small producers have gone out of business. A small dairy farmer might have 50 of these calves a year. In this country, after paying expenses he might get £1,000 in total, if they had free access to the EU then it could easily be £5,000. For the protesters animals are all about being cuddly things that are not eaten but die of old age. Unfortunately, we all need food and farmers need to make a living."

■ See www.yourthanet.co.uk for all the latest news and sport headlines.



TROUBLED WATER: Protestors want Ramsgate's port owners right to refuse shipment

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News

CRIME

Courts should not become a reality TV show, says MP

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

PERRY Mason-style barristers will become increasingly common due to televised court hearings, predicts a critical MP.

North Thanet Tory representative Roger Gale says the proposals confirmed by Justice Secretary Kenneth Clarke on Tuesday will encourage some legal professionals to show off in the style of the maverick 1960s TV defence attorney.

He adds that the work of Parliament has already been devalued by the filming of Prime Minister's Questions and some committee hearings, with news channels selecting the "juiciest" extracts to spice up their broadcasts.

Mr Gale said: "There is no doubt the presence of television cameras has introduced the Perry Mason effect to select committees as MPs vie with each other.

"The televising of the closing speeches and passing of sentences in courts will create the



ATTENTION: The Perry Mason effect is feared by MP Roger Gale

same effect as barristers seek to impress the media with fee-improving performances, and the more eccentric members of the judiciary use the TV platform to address the nation."

The Prime Minister confirmed this week that television cameras will soon be allowed in court after renewed calls from broadcasters for filming to be allowed.

Under the plans, the trials themselves and the verdicts delivered by the jury would not be filmed. But Mr Clarke said televising judges' comments

would help "demystify" the legal process.

Before Mr Gale's election in 1982 he worked as a producer and director of current affairs programmes for the BBC and was also editor of the now-defunct Thames Television's teenage unit.

He added: "This is not about transparency or democracy, it is about television showbusiness and we do not need our law courts to be turned into yet another reality TV show."

■ **For more news and sport see www.yourthanet.co.uk.**

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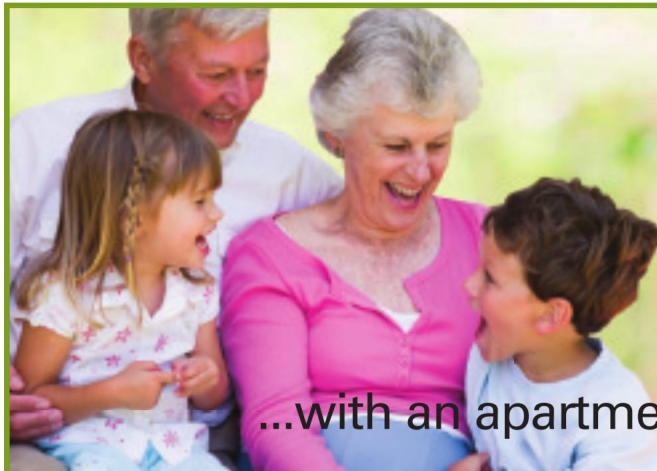
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News

ENTERTAINMENT

Crowd dance to the beat at ska festival

By Nick Ames

nick.ames@archant.co.uk

RHYTHMS originating in Jamaica but always associated with the industrial midlands of England came to Folkestone at the weekend in the form of the Skabour Festival.

2 Tone 1980s stars The Beat from Birmingham and Coventry band The Selector played at the Leas Cliff Hall, while appearing on stage at the harbour itself were acts including The Real Bad Habits, The Skatronics, and Sidewalk Doctors.

Meanwhile reggae music pumped out all day from speakers on the Trojan Lawn, a recreated Jamaican-style outdoor bar named for the event's major backer Trojan Records.

Ska music started on the Caribbean island in the late 1950s and became popular with mods and skinheads in the late 1960s and 70s.

Fused with the aggressive energy of punk it became a popular movement in England in the late 1970s with the 2 Tone label featuring mixed-race bands.

The Selector, once described as "conspiring to make dancing the only way to walk" combined catchy tunes with social comment – as they still do today with their latest track, entitled Big In The Body, Small In The Mind, from their forthcoming album Made In Britain.

The band – who feature Pauline Black and Gapps Hendrickson – said: "This is a homage to Woody Guthrie and a rallying call to all those fans who still feel that 2 Tone bands should be musically confronting the ugly face of racism."

Pauline has also just had her autobiography Black by Design published and signed copies in Waterstone's.

"It was a job of work writing it but I didn't want a standard potted history. I wanted it to reflect my journey through life," she said.

Pauline was put up for adoption after her birth in 1953 and taken in by a white middle-aged couple from Romford.

Black by Design contains vivid accounts of simmering racial tension in Britain after World War Two, when immigrants arrived, and in the 1980s, when unemployment and social deprivation brought it to the surface once again, as well as Pauline's account of life as a black child in a white family, feeling "like a cuckoo in somebody else's nest".

Known as Britain's original 'rude girl', she also enjoyed a successful subsequent acting



Pictures: PAUL JERREAT

SKA LINE-UP: Freddie Loco and the Gordos kick-off their set on the stage in Folkestone harbour at the Skabour Festival



ORIGINAL RUDE GIRL: Pauline Black of The Selector and (right) Mick the Skin, frontman of The Coolers, is braced for action



TOO MUCH TOO YOUNG? Young rude boys and girls and some older 2 Tone stalwarts get lost in the music at Folkestone

career and in 1991 she won a Time Out award for her stage portrayal of Billie Holiday.

The festival's opening included a set from Streatham-based band The Coolers. Frontman Mick the Skin said: "We have a lot of youngsters discover-

ing ska and then there are the stalwarts who have always been around.

"This is a great event and Folkestone seems like it's really into the music."

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ARTS

Memoir uncovers a family history shaped by slavery and colonialism

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

AN AWARD-winning poet who grew up in Guyana says she hopes her autobiography will help promote cultural understanding.

Maggie Harris, 57, who emigrated to England in 1971 and now lives in Broadstairs, has published her memoir *Kiskadee Girl* thanks in part to a £6,000 grant from Arts Council England.

The book explores Caribbean culture as well as the influences relatives from other backgrounds had on her early life.

"As an adult in the UK, my growing up in Guyana played a surreal role in my mind," said Maggie. "But it also seemed to have no significance for my children and I began to wonder how many children of migrant parents were losing out on their ancestral culture."

"I wanted to write my memoirs to make it real for myself and my chil-

dren, as well as produce a diverse perspective of Guyana and promote cultural understanding.

"It's impossible to write about the Caribbean without being aware of its history. None of my family would have been in Guyana if it was not for slavery and colonialism."

"My mother's father came from Scotland, her mother's family from Madeira, my father's ancestors from Africa. The first part of the book tells their stories, or as much as I could find out."

A former mature student at the University of Kent, Maggie is now a creative writing tutor and lecturer in schools and at the University of Southampton. Her 1999 poetry collection *Limbolds* won Guyana Prize for Literature.

The initial funding for Maggie's autobiography was provided in 2004 through Arts Council England's grants for the arts scheme, which uses National Lottery money to support artists and arts or-



ganisations with their work.

She said: "The award justified my belief in the possibility of such a book, and gave me the confidence that others thought I could do it."

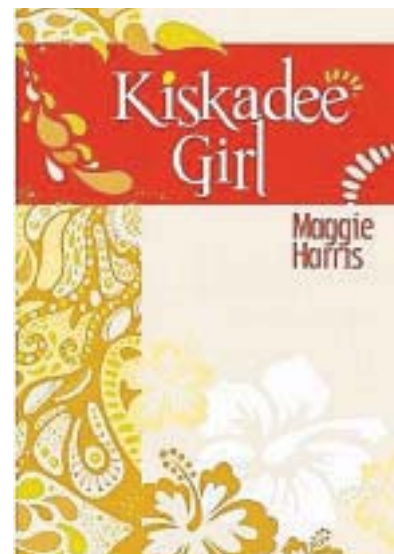
"I was primarily a poet and short-story writer, and planning a more

major work was a challenge. Secondly, as a freelance writer with no regular income the award helped me financially and credited being a writer as a proper job."

Last year grants for the arts awarded a total of £273,972 to people and organisations for literature projects in the South East.

Arts Council England's regional director Sally Abbott said: "We're delighted our scheme supports writers like Maggie to develop their writing and get their work published. It's a major achievement to do so, and we hope *Kiskadee Girl* reaches out to as wide an audience as possible."

■ See www.yourthanet.co.uk for news and sport headlines.



CONTINUING THE STORY: Maggie Harris' new book not only looks at her family's past, but also raises awareness of the impact of colonialism

EXHIBITION

Royal wedding robes on show at cathedral

CANTERBURY Cathedral is offering the chance to see the robes worn by Archbishop Rowan Williams for the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton.

The annual Canterbury Cathedral open evening will feature an exhibition of iconic Vestments including the cope the Archbishop wore for the royal wedding, and the 1953 Japanese silk coronation cope and mitre.

Executive secretary of the Friends of Canterbury Cathedral Pam Doyle said: "We are delighted to be exhibiting iconic

Vestments alongside stalls from the various departments within the cathedral. Come along and see the

exquisite workmanship and detail close up on the garments with royal connections, they really are quite breathtaking.

"There will also be lots to see and do with tours of the cathedral, a short concert by the choristers and everything from stone carving to gilding for you to try."

The event on Wednesday, October 5, runs from at 5.30-9.30pm. Entry is free as are all the activities and guided tours.



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KIDNAP COUPLE

Kidnap couple under attack again after their Somali hostage ordeal

By Jenna Pudelek

jenna.pudelek@archant.co.uk

ON AN overcast autumnal day in central London I am introduced to two people I instantly recognise, but from a situation which seems a million miles away.

Amid the plush surrounds of one of London's top members' clubs I am introduced to Paul and Rachel Chandler, the "ordinary couple from Tunbridge Wells", who survived an extraordinary ordeal at the hands of Somali pirates.

Their faces are more familiar from grainy images, shot by their kidnappers, of them looking gaunt and flanked by gun-wielding outlaws. Here they sip drinks and enjoy the luxury.

But after suffering a 13-month ordeal which started when pirates stormed their beloved boat as they travelled from the Seychelles to Tanzania in October, 2009, and ended 388 days later with their release, they have found themselves once again under attack.

Attacked for taking the risk; attacked for not heeding advice; attacked for trying to cash-in on their agony.

Thrust back into the spotlight this month as they look to promote a new book which, in diary form, charts the traumatic events, they talk about their return to the UK, of regaining control of their bank accounts, being able to use their own mobile phones at will and the strangeness of mundane tasks such as supermarket shopping.

Mr Chandler, 60, said: "It took four or five weeks for the mind to accept we had been kidnapped – that this was reality and not a nightmare, that we were not going to wake up.

"It took the same time to accept we were not dreaming about having been released and come to terms with the reality of freedom."

Upon their release Tunbridge Wells Borough Council invited them to a homecoming reception. When nothing else was publicly announced, it was assumed they had turned their back on the town – preferring instead to take refuge with friends and family elsewhere.

The truth, however, is different. They took up then mayor David Jukes on his offer – but shunning the publicity, they did so quietly, enjoying a private lunch with the councillor and his deputy

Elizabeth Thomas. They have visited friends in the town, too.

What's more, they consider it home, and intend to come back and live here once again. But first, they are desperate to hit the open water once more. But this time with a jaunt to the Caribbean rather than the pirate-ridden Indian Ocean. Once their wanderlust is satisfied, they will return to their Mount Ephraim flat, which they currently rent out.

For now though, the focus is on setting the record straight about their ordeal.

So what of the warnings they received before setting sail on that fateful journey?

"The official advice is now to avoid sailing in that part," explains Mrs Chandler, 57.

"But when we were there, there was not that sort of advice. The problem is that it was changing dramatically at the time. Information was difficult to get – but that has improved a lot, partly now because of the profile we've given it."

Mrs Chandler, a former government economist, said: "That a small yacht was subject to not just an attack, but kidnap, was something most people had not appreciated was a risk."

Their desire to get back to the sea may surprise many, but having sailed for 30 years, and maintained their yacht, the 38-ft Lynn Rival, for 23, they say it is more a calling than a pastime.

Their book, *Hostage: A Year at Gunpoint with Somali Gangsters*, is a harrowing read, especially their heartbreaking three months of separation during which Mrs Chandler contemplated suicide. But there are also elements of humour.

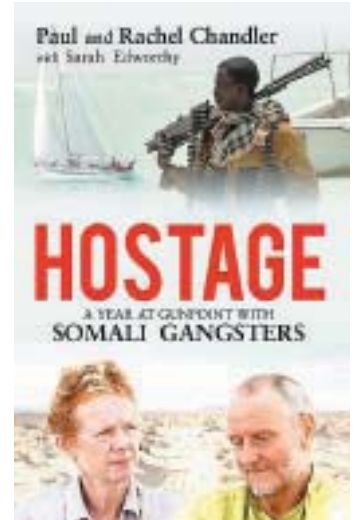
Early on in the capture, while aboard Lynn Rival heading towards Somalia, the gang leader, Buggas, wants a shower and demands shampoo. After he refuses the offer of soap, Mrs Chandler hands him Cif, the abrasive household cleaner.

"I'm blown if I'm going to be helpful," the book states. "Soon a naked Buggas appears, covered in Cif, apparently complaining that it isn't lathering. His men laugh at him and I have to restrain myself."

Asked how they feel towards their captors now, Mr Chandler said: "I would like to see the leader brought to justice and, given the opportunity, I would give evidence against him."

With the pirates preferring to seize big tankers

Picture: PAUL JERREAT



TOGETHER: Rachel and Paul Chandler have written a book detailing their harrowing kidnap ordeal

and demand equally big ransoms from their corporate owners. Mrs Chandler says the fact firms pick up the bill means it is often considered a "victimless crime".

However, she points to the human suffering and separation they know only too well.

Their book is dedicated to the hundreds of seafarers being held hostage, and their families.

There has been much speculation about the ransom paid to the pirates for the Chandlers' release. Their family paid \$440,000 in June, 2010, but it appeared the kidnappers got greedy and demanded more. They were not freed until November and two days before gang leader Buggas

mentioned \$200,000 came 'from my family', which they presumed meant his clan and was put forward by elders.

Amazingly, their eventual freedom was gained thanks to the actions of a Somali businessman from east London called Dahir Kadiye who travelled to Nairobi and used his contacts to intervene.

Mr Chandler said: "We consider Dahir one of the family."

Mrs Chandler added: "He worked very hard to get our release and we will always be very, very grateful."

"He is one of the most amazing people," Mr Chandler said. "He put his life at risk for us."

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News

TRAVEL

Contractor promises repairs to roads are 'number one priority'

By James Reid

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

OFFICIALS have promised the standard of road repairs in Kent is set to rise as a new long-term maintenance contract comes into force.

Enterprise took over maintenance of Kent County Council's 5,000-mile road network last week, and promised to cheer up the county's drivers who have had to contend with thousands of potholes caused by severe winters.

County Hall says the contract contains "powerful incentives" to make sure the firm does a good job. For example, the company will only be paid if it does high-quality work and for the amount of works done – not for the time taken to do it.

The contract was awarded after a year-long, new-style selection process known as 'competitive dialogue', which was also used in building for the 2012 London Games.

KCC cabinet member for environment, highways and



ALL CHANGE: Mike Cafferky, of Enterprise, left, shakes on it with Cllr Bryan Sweetland

waste Cllr Bryan Sweetland, said: "Having good quality, safe roads in Kent is a top priority and this new contract will help us achieve that.

"KCC will only pay for work when the contractor does a good, professional job, repeat or inefficient working would be at the contractor's expense and KCC highways inspectors will be making sure repairs are top quality and permanent.

"To ensure quality, we will also hold a certain percentage of the contractor's invoices

back every month – and this will only be paid if Enterprise meets stretching performance targets, set by ourselves.

"Clearly local authorities are in a challenging environment at this time, and it is vital that KCC has a contract and a company that can deliver the goods to a high standard at a very competitive price. The roads in Kent will improve."

Enterprise regional managing director Mike Cafferky, said: "We have a strong history in improving performance, increasing efficiency and raising customer satisfaction.

"Kent is our number one priority and we are 100 per cent committed to maintaining Kent's roads in an ever-improving condition. It is a fantastic opportunity for us and we want to make sure the highway users in Kent benefit from this."

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HOLIDAY HEALTH

Travel firm sued for salmonella poisoning at five-star hotel

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

A HOLIDAYMAKER who claims he contracted salmonella at a five-star hotel in the Dominican Republic is suing the travel company he booked it through.

Stewart Green, 51, from Dartford, says he was off work for a month and continues to suffer ill health as a result of his stay at the Gran Bahia Principe Cayo Levantado resort, in the north-eastern city of Samana, in August, 2009.

He is now taking legal action against First



PARADISE LOST: The Gran Bahia Principe Cayo Levantado resort

Choice over the two-week trip that turned into a holiday from hell.

Mr Green, a deputy shift manager at a food

packaging company, said: "I was all over the place when it hit me and struggled with diarrhoea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fever and

weight loss. The last few days of the holiday were ruined as I was confined to my room.

"I returned to work about a month after falling ill, meaning I missed out on 11 shifts and the chance to do all-important overtime.

"I've also not been able to stomach certain foods such as potatoes, onions and chillies since the holiday. It has completely knocked me for six and things can change from one day to another.

"It's awful and I simply want to know why I faced these problems at a hotel which is supposed to be five-star.

"I also dread to think how many other people might have been affected."

Salmonella is a type of bacteria usually found in poultry, eggs, unprocessed milk and water.

When contracted by humans it attacks the stomach and intestines, but in more serious cases it may also enter the lymph tracts – which carry water and protein to the blood – and the blood itself.

Mr Green believes he caught the illness through eating in the hotel's buffet restaurant, which he claims contained food that was left uncovered, served at the wrong temperature or undercooked.

In 2007, travel law specialists at Irwin Mitchell solicitors won more than £3.5 million for over 500 tourists who suffered health problems at a different Bahia Principe hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Spokesman Amandeep Dhillon said: "Over the past five years we have helped a huge number of people gain justice over the problems they have faced at Bahia Principe hotels, so we want reassurances problems like this are going to become a thing of the past.

"The safety of holidaymakers is simply not something staff at the hotel and First Choice can take lightly, as the consequences of salmonella can often be long-term problems sufferers never fully recover from."

A First Choice spokesman said 100 per cent of Cayo Levantado guests who have so far completed the firm's customer satisfaction questionnaire have rated the accommodation overall as either good or excellent.

She added: "First Choice closely audits all the resorts to which we operate to ensure the strictest health, hygiene and comfort levels are maintained."

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EDUCATION

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Parents have until 4pm on Monday, October 31, to name up to six secondary school choices for 2012. All paper application forms also need to be submitted by this date.

By applying online, parents will receive an email confirming their application has been received. An email will also be sent after 4pm on National Offer Day, March 1, 2012, letting parents know what school place their child has been offered.

Primary school admissions for 2012 open in November.

See www.medway.gov.uk, or phone the student services admissions team on 01634 331110 for more information.

■ See www.yourmedway.co.uk for all the latest news and sport headlines.

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CHARITY

Tee off with star Jones for the Martha Trust

THE annual Geraint Jones Golf Day in support of Martha Trust is being held at Prince's Golf Club in Sandwich on Friday, October 28.

The day includes 18 holes of links golf, a two-course dinner, and charity auction. All proceeds go to the Martha Trust, which cares for people with profound disabilities across Kent and Sussex. England and Kent wicketkeeper Geraint Jones will be leading a team. The cost is £250 for a team of four (£160 for members) or £70 per individual (£40 for members). For those wishing to play alongside Jones the price is £400.

To register players or sponsor the day call 01304 610 448 or email fundraising@marthatrust.org.uk.

CRIME

Dog ban for driver who beat his sick pet

A man has been banned from keeping dogs for two years after admitting beating his dog in Shornecliffe Road, Folkestone.

Oluwasen Akerele, who now lives in Reading, was seen dragging his dog out of the back of a car and hitting and beating it in July last year.

Folkestone Magistrates heard on Thursday last week that the dog had been sick in the car and Akerele was angry.

RSPCA Inspector Caroline Doe said: "There was no excuse for this attack whatsoever."

Akerele has to pay £250 costs and a £150 fine.

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News

BUSINESS

Small firms missing out on key rate relief

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

SMALL business owners could be losing out by failing to apply for double tax breaks worth more than £1,000 each.

Almost 14,000 firms across the county are already benefiting from the Government's rate relief scheme, but it is believed many more could be missing out due to them not realising they are eligible.

According to a league table released by the Department for Communities and Local Government, just two Kent districts – Canterbury (37 per cent, including Whitstable and Herne Bay) and Thanet (34 per cent) – are in the top 100 in the UK for areas with the highest percentage of business properties receiving discounts.

The doubling of the small business rate relief (SBRR) was introduced last October as part of the Government's commitment to support local enterprise



CASH FLOW: Less than 35 per cent of small businesses in Thanet – including in Ramsgate – benefit from double tax breaks

and growth, and will continue until September next year.

"Rates are the third biggest cost for small businesses after rent and wages," said Roger House, chairman of the Kent and Medway branch of the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB). "We previously called for fully-automatic SBRR, and we encourage district councils that collect business rates to promote the discounts to which small businesses are entitled."

"We have developed excel-

lent relations with councils across Kent and urge them to use their new powers to ensure all small businesses receive the relief they are entitled to."

As part of the SBRR scheme, businesses occupying property with a rateable value of up to £6,000 pay no rates at all, with the relief gradually reducing for firms occupying property up to a rateable value of £12,000.

Jo James, chief executive of Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, said Kent businesses fare worse than those in some parts of the UK because rateable values are generally higher in the South East.

She added: "If you have a rateable value of below £6,000 then you don't pay any rates until October, 2012. For example, the majority of units on the Ellingham Industrial Estate in Ashford fall into that category."

"SBRR is not automatically granted. Businesses have to apply for it and it could be a case that many are not aware of it."

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OPINION

Building toward the future

John Elliott, MD of Millwood Designer Homes, talks about the positive aspects of the controversial new National Planning Policy Framework

THE National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) – a draft of which is out to consultation – has been hailed as the most important planning document since the Town & Country Planning Act of 1947.

It is set to be the biggest change to the planning system in more than 60 years and scraps detailed planning guidance notes and circulars.

Instead, the Government insists there should be a presumption in favour of "sustainable" development to house a rising population. It is intended to speed up and simplify often complex laws, while encouraging economic growth.

However, some organisations believe it heralds the destruction of Britain itself. These include the National Trust, Friends of the Earth and the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England.

Shaun Spiers, chief executive of CPRE, said the Government

appeared to have declared open season on countryside not designated as Green Belt or an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

However, many companies have welcomed the proposals, saying they would help boost economic growth and jobs by removing the interminable delays and uncertainties surrounding the current system.

While I agree the NPPF is a positive move for housebuilders and all parties that have to use the planning system, I believe it is the positive effect it will have on our economic growth and stability, changing and shaping the future of our country, that is paramount.

The core element of the draft NPPF is sustainable development. It is about positive growth and making economic, environmental and social progress. The reality is we are facing a chronic shortage of homes. Official projections

have shown the need for circa 240,000 new homes in England a year just to meet growth in the number of households.

The draft NPPF provides an important and substantial contribution to the reform of England's planning system, and supports this desperately-needed increase in house building. It will not only encourage growth but protect our heritage, because the NPPF recognises the vital role that planning has in protecting our environment.

Homes built today are of an increasingly high standard of energy efficiency, which makes them far less of a drain on the environment. New homes generate on average 60 per cent less CO2 than older homes.

The NPPF has also stated that significant weight should be given to outstanding or innovative designs and that permission should be refused for development of obviously poor design. This will ensure homes



6699

The reality is we are facing a chronic shortage of homes

will be aesthetically pleasing and complement and enhance the local environment.

Housebuilding is vital to our recovery as a nation, since construction is one of the best ways to stimulate economic activity. It creates hundreds of thousands of jobs. Every new home built provides 1.5 direct full-time jobs plus up to four times that many in the supply chain.

Despite all the doom and gloom about the state of the property market, residential property is in good shape. However, if we don't do something now, it's not just our generation that will suffer but our children, and their children.

As a housebuilder, I can see that you might think that I am going to see only positives in the NPPF strategy, but the reality is that we have to build more homes. What is important is how we approach this to ensure that the end result is a positive one for us all.

KOS COMMENT

Looked-after children bear cost of recession

IT HAS never been cheap to run a family so it is small wonder the economic collapse has had such a damaging impact on Kent's adoption figures.

When a looked-after child is spending an average of two-and-a-half years in care, it is a tragedy that money is one of the main barriers preventing them from being given a new home.

But what is perhaps most tragic is that many would-be adopters are actually eligible for a range of financial benefits to ensure they can cope.

Here's hoping KCC follows up its promise to make this clearer in future.

Bookworms bucking the technology trend

IN a world dominated by the internet, television and video games, it's nice to see the people of Kent haven't forgotten how to settle down and enjoy a good book.

Charles Dickens and Geoffrey Chaucer were both inspired to write about the county, and it appears their love of words lives on in the Garden of England many years after their deaths.

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We must help those in need

MPs are returning to Westminster having had a break and many other people will have returned from their holidays. It is important to remember that some people are struggling to afford everyday living, and for whom the idea of a holiday is out of the question.

Earlier this year, a Learning Disability Coalition survey revealed that the number of people unable to afford very basic items, such as food, has increased, and in most cases nearly doubled over the last eight years.

Disturbingly, it showed that the number of people unable to pay for heating has increased from four per cent to 15 per cent – which is likely to increase as many energy companies are putting up prices.

This dramatic fall in living standards is being compounded by cutbacks from the Government to essential social care support and welfare support. For people with a learning disability, who are

often reliant on support from birth, the situation is grim.

If our MPs have been lucky enough to have a holiday this year I hope they will also consider how to end the crisis in social care and ensure that people with a learning disability are able to live without the fear of being trapped in poverty.

Karen Ndyeh, Maidstone

It's time for a clean sweep

I write in response to your headline in last week's paper regarding the £1 million clean up. I feel the county council could reduce this figure if only they would allow everybody, including small builders, to go to the recycling centres without the threat of charging.

They will say that it is not the council but the companies that run them that charge, however it was the councils that gave these companies the contracts in the first place.

If they were taken back and run by KCC they would then have the opportunity to make that service free to all, bearing in mind also they

would receive an income from the waste that they sell on, for example scrap metal. Of course, you would get a few who would still dump, but the amount would be reduced.

Also, when there is a traffic accident, and the police get out their expensive recovery firms, they do not clear up after. We have all seen in our travels around our county the remnants of these incidents, with bumpers, number plates, car trim, and police tape all over the accident site.

Surely this can be classed as fly-tipping for which at some point KCC will have to collect. The police should be held accountable to see that their contractors clear all debris from the site, if not the contractors should be heavily fined as they are easily traceable.

Jim Watson, Tenterden

What's the Latin answer?

I wonder which of our erudite local government officers decided our new purple-lidded wheelie bins should have the words 'plastic omnium' inscribed on the lid?

His classical education will have taught him, but not many of us, that 'omnium' comes from the Latin 'omnium gatherum', meaning a miscellany or strange mixture.

What it seems to imply is that in addition to plastics, we can throw in jam jars, soup tins, and beer cans. The bins are so deep that the glass will smash as it drops.

And we are warned that if we don't first clean the jars and butter containers, etc, the bins will not be emptied.

Is there a suitable Latin phrase to guide us on what to do then with this 'strange mixture' of broken glass, soup tins and plastic containers?

Reginald Turnill, Sandgate

The animals deserve more

I am disgusted with the whole issue of live animal exports, and disgusted with Defra who clearly have no regard for the safety and welfare of the calves and sheep being transported through the Port of Ramsgate and across the Channel.

The ship Joline, which takes the transporters, has broken

down in the past and animals are on board for many hours. It has no protection from the elements so how do we know what condition the animals are in when they get across?

The animals themselves seem to be very smelly, so how long have they travelled to be in that state? We have seen blood, limbs hanging through slats, and a sheep upside down.

This is clearly animal abuse, no-one seems bothered by it, the police certainly don't nor do Defra, the animal health vet or the man carrying the documents for the animals.

I thought we were civilised people, clearly not.

R Bane, By email

Let Liverpool port expand

I was taken aback by MP Charlie Elphicke's reported objections to turnaround trips for cruise liners being relocated to Liverpool.

According to your news item last week, he complains that the port of Dover gets no financial help in the form of state aid, and (in a most peculiar stance for a former

tax lawyer) insists that UK ratepayers' money should be paid to the EU as a condition of granting permission.

Since he represents a successful ferry port, he must be aware that people from all over the country use Dover as a convenient jumping-off point for trips to the Continent.

Why then should he object to people from northern England, Scotland and the Midlands from exercising their choice to depart from Liverpool?

The UK Cruise Port Alliance, which unsurprisingly is described as Southampton-based, is clearly rattled; by a process of tortuous reasoning it concludes that expanding cruise trips from Liverpool will strip £80m from the economies of other UK ports.

It would be just as absurd to complain that Faversham residents are favoured over Formby's or Fakenham's by being able to use the HS1 railway line, built with a considerable amount of public money. Liverpool attracts frequent visits from cruise liners, but at present the only people who benefit from its cultural and shopping attractions are visitors disembarking mid-cruise.

As your report rightly states, its city council is willing to repay the UK's contribution to building the new landing stage and to spend a further £10m on infrastructure improvements.

I hope Mr Elphicke will consider withdrawing his 'dog in a manger' statement, which does his constituents no favours at all.

**John Edmondson
Heswall, Wirral**

Stop ruining our cricket

My wife and I are appalled at the decision of Kent CCC to stage their last Championship match of the season under floodlights using a pink ball.

Now that one-day cricket has been rendered virtually unwatchable by the introduction of coloured clothing, loud ugly music and floodlights, four-day games are all that is left for those who want a proper day's cricket in peaceful surroundings.

Now the last match of the season, to which we had been looking forward with pleasure, has been denied us. This must never happen again.

JRG Edwards, Birchington

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Editor: Ian Patel
Address: Apple Barn, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SS
Editorial:
Telephone 01303 817100;
Fax 01303 817002;
Email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk
Advertising:
Telephone 01303 817150;
Fax 01303 817001;
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We want to buy-to-let but banks won't help

Q I READ with interest the articles on your website, www.mymoney24.co.uk, about the expansion of buy-to-let mortgages. I have been told by HSBC and First Direct that such mortgages are very hard to get and they do not offer them. From what I understand of the market, there is a great opportunity for new landlords as more people are forced to rent, so I was surprised by the cold reception from the banks.

A FIRST Direct is simply part of HSBC, and HSBC does offer buy-to-let mortgages, but it is very choosy about its borrowers. You are unlikely to qualify unless you are an HSBC Premier customer, which means you already have savings or investments of at least £50,000 with the bank, or you have an annual income of £100,000-plus paid into your HSBC account and you have used the bank's other services, too. There are plenty of other lenders, and you have told me that you and your fiancée can put up an existing £200,000 property as collateral. You are looking for a £120,000 property, and you have £40,000 for a deposit, so you need a 66pc mortgage to provide about £80,000. These are good figures. The only snag is your income, as you have only £20,000 a year between the two of you. This is really low for a buy-to-let borrower, and will make any bank think twice about whether you could afford the repayments. As a rough guide, lenders expect a decent safety margin to be built into the expected rental income. If your repayments are about £750-£800 a month, the lender will probably expect rental income to be £1,000 or more. The bigger you can make the safety margin, the better chance you stand of finding a lender. The Skipton (0845 850 1755), the Market Harborough (01858 412250) and the Nottingham (0115 956 4704) building societies will all lend up to 70pc to buy-to-let borrowers. But my best tip is that you use a mortgage broker with a knowledge of the buy-to-let market. A good broker will find a deal that may not even be advertised, and even after the broker's fee you could save a fortune.

Q I OWN my house, worth £162,000. It has been suggested that I put my son's name on the deeds, but I have received conflicting advice over capital gains tax as he also owns his own home. One friend suggests he would inherit my property at its value on my death, so tax would only be due on any later increase. Fortunately, my estate is below the starting point for inheritance tax. Also, if I went into a nursing home, would all the value of my house

TONY HETHERINGTON MONEY CLINIC



be taken for fees, or only half if my son was on the deeds with me? If my son were to have financial problems, could there be difficulties if his name was on deeds?

A IF YOU make your son the owner, or part-owner, of your home, this would count as his in any divorce or bankruptcy proceedings. You would face no capital gains tax bill because the property is your tax-exempt residence. But your son would be taxed if the house rises in value and is sold, as he has a home, so his stake in your house would be regarded by the taxman as an investment. If he gets your house only when you die, and has no stake in it now, then your friend is right. Tax would be due only on any rise in value after that. As for nursing home fees, this is tricky! If you deliberately give away assets so the council is forced to pay your fees, the council can give you or your son a bill. Whether this would happen depends on how strictly the council applies the rules, and on how much time has passed since giving away your home.

Q I REACH 65 on December 20. Can I claim the extra tax allowance for over-65s for the full year, or just the fraction after my birthday?

A ANYONE who reaches 65 by the end of the financial year, next April 5, can claim the full year's extra tax allowance, right back to last April 6. Remember, though, that if your income tops £24,000, you lose some of the extra allowance.

Q I SHALL not now get my state pension until age 62, but will I still qualify for a bus pass at 60?

A SORRY, but the bus pass is linked to the women's state pension age so you will have to wait until you are 62. As the pension age for women rises gradually, so will the bus pass age for both women and men.

■ If you have a personal-finance question, write to Tony Hetherington, MyMoney24, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE. Neither Tony nor the MyMoney24 team can enter into personal correspondence.



A HIGHLY DES RES: There are more homes worth more than £1 million on the market than there were a year ago

More £1m properties going up for sale

THERE has been a steep rise in the number of properties worth £1 million or more on the market.

According to research by Investec Specialist Private Bank, there were more than 21,300 residential properties worth at least £1m on the market during the second quarter of 2011. That represented a rise of 10pc on the same period a year earlier, and 8pc more than during the first three months of 2010.

Of the 10 areas with the highest

number of £1m-plus properties, nine saw an annual increase in the number for sale during the three months to the end of June. Kent and Hampshire topped the table, with both counties recording rises of 42pc.

Only Greater London saw a decline – a small one of 1pc – but the Investec study revealed that 45pc of the £1m-plus homes on the market during the second quarter were in the capital.

"Our research shows just how big

the multi-million pound property market is in the UK, and that it is growing rapidly," said Jack Jones, of Investec. "However, as mortgage lending falls, many of those looking to buy these properties may find it increasingly difficult to secure the necessary funding."

Of the properties on the market during the second quarter of 2011, 6,670 were valued at £2m or more. About 1,200 were valued at £5m or more.

Offset mortgages can save a fortune

By Adam Aiken

MyMoney 24 editor

THE dire savings rates on offer today could lead to a comeback in popularity for offset mortgages, with homeowners benefiting from reduced mortgage interest instead of receiving only paltry returns on their deposit accounts.

Offset mortgages are not new, but new products from the likes of Barclays and First Direct could signify a renewed appetite for them.

In a nutshell, an offset mortgage involves taking any savings you have – money that could be earning very little interest at the moment – and using them to reduce the balance of your mortgage. This means that although you won't earn any interest on your

savings, you will be paying less to service your home loan.

For example, if you have a mortgage of £100,000 and savings of £20,000, you could combine them in a single offset account, leaving you owing £80,000.

However, you retain access to your 'savings' if you need it. All that happens is the size of your outstanding mortgage increases if you withdraw cash from the account.

Louise Holmes, a spokesman for Moneyfacts.co.uk, said: "Offset mortgages essentially allow your savings to work harder. With savings rates disappointingly low at the moment, many borrowers are taking up these deals to achieve a decent rate of return. Offset mortgages also tend to offer flexible features such as over-

payments and underpayments."

Richard Tolchard, senior mortgage product manager at First Direct, said the bank's offset mortgages allowed unlimited overpayments without customers being forced to say goodbye to that money for good.

And Andy Gray, head of mortgages at Barclays said: "Offset mortgages are now more valuable than ever."

"They are a win-win solution for borrowers as they can pay off their mortgage quicker, keep instant access on their savings and boost their savings rate with equivalent returns of more than 5pc."

Mrs Holmes said offset mortgages from First Direct, Market Harborough Building Society and Coventry Building Society were the current market leaders.

INSIDE THIS WEEK

THERE'S no hiding the fact that the economic forecast from the British Chambers of Commerce is not what those in the business world wanted to hear, but Jo James, of the Kent Invicta chamber, is keen to see the optimistic side. Meanwhile, at the Kent Channel chamber, chief executive Peter Hobbs tells how joining the BCC can only be a good thing.

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'Disappointing' national forecast

By Nick Ames

nick.ames@archant.co.uk

KENT Chamber of Commerce says news that its national body foresees a slight reduction in economic growth in the near future is disappointing but it is still optimistic of long-term improvement.

The county chamber said it expected businesses across Kent to outperform the national standard in the near future.

This month the British Chambers of Commerce published its new Quarterly Economic Forecast, downgrading its prediction for UK GDP growth in 2011 and 2012. Though growth is expected to be weaker over the short term, the new forecast predicts a gradual improvement and warns against unjustified gloom about the UK's economic prospects.

The GDP forecasts have been revised down compared with the June report because growth was lower than expected in Q2, and future expansion will be held back more than earlier envisaged by a combination of weaker global growth, fiscal austerity and the relentless squeeze on personal disposable incomes.

Key features of the forecast include: ■ GDP growth over the coming quarters will be modest: 0.3 per cent in Q3 2011 and 0.5 per cent in Q4 2011, rising to

0.6 per cent from Q1 2012 onwards. The BCC's forecast remains lower than the Office for Budget Responsibility's (OBR), and many others.

■ The BCC expects UK GDP growth of 1.1 per cent in 2011 (down from 1.3 per cent) and 2.1 per cent in 2012 (down from 2.2 per cent), and consumer spending to fall by 1.0 per cent in 2011 (double the previous forecast of a 0.5 per cent fall). UK prospects will improve gradually, with GDP strengthening in 2012 and beyond, rising to 2.5 per cent in 2013. The forecast also predicts annual CPI inflation of 4.4 per cent in 2011 (from 4.5 per cent) and 3.0 per cent in 2012 (from 2.7 per cent).

■ Unemployment is now forecast to peak in Q4 2012, at 2.62 million; in June, there was a prediction of a slightly lower jobless peak of 2.6 million in Q2 2012. However, given the difficult economic background, the expected rise in unemployment is moderate, and the UK labour market is set to remain quite resilient overall.

■ Lower growth prospects, globally and in the UK, mean that official interest rates will need to stay at very low levels for longer than previously envisaged. Rates are expected to rise in August 2012, reaching 1 per cent in Q4 2012



LOOKING AHEAD:

The Kent Chamber of Commerce's forecast for economic growth differs from the national body

and then 2.25 per cent in Q4 2013.

David Frost, director general of the British Chambers of Commerce, said: "The challenges faced by the UK economy are more difficult than first thought at the beginning of the year. Growth will be slow, inflation will remain high, and the number of those out of work will increase. Despite this, there is no need for doom and gloom.

"We expect prospects to improve over the medium term and believe the UK has the potential to recover and thrive. But this will depend on creating the right conditions for businesses to grow.

"The Government is right to reduce the deficit, but these measures must be matched by policies to stimulate growth."

Jo James, chief executive of Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, said: "The BCC has been remarkably accurate in its assessments throughout the economic downturn and the putative recovery, largely because it bases those assessments on information supplied by an extensive range of Chamber members operating in the real world of business.

"It is, therefore, disappointing they perceive a slight reduction in potential growth.

"I am confident businesses in the South East, and particularly in Kent, given their record to date, will continue to adapt to circumstances and maintain growth at, or probably above, the level predicted by BCC."

INSURANCE

Chartered status award for insurers

THE Chartered Insurance Institute has awarded its prestigious Chartered Insurance Brokers title to Maidstone-based MPW Insurance Brokers Ltd.

Chartered status is awarded to firms that meet strict criteria relating to professionalism and capability and is known in the industry as the 'gold standard'.

The independent broker specialises in providing insurances for construction and many other trades and professions in the commercial-business sector.

Chairman Andy Webb said securing Chartered Insurance Broker Status was a landmark for his company.

He said: "We have always prided ourselves on being thoroughly professional in everything we do, and to receive external recognition in this way is very gratifying.

"The team at MPW have worked successfully to achieve the level of qualification and standard required for the status.

"As chartered insurance brokers, we can signal our commitment to the highest levels of service to our clients. It's also a double celebration as next month we mark our 25th anniversary."

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

'We've got what you need'

BUSINESSES in east Kent have the opportunity to join forces and help each other prosper as the local chamber of commerce broadens its influence and stretches out its offers of assistance.

The Kent Channel Chamber of Commerce (formerly Channel Chamber) is set to be part of the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) network.

Members say this will enable the group to add its voice to other chambers across the UK when talking to the Government as well as tap into expertise nationwide.

And its first major initiative will focus on helping start-up businesses with a programme of added-value services and benefits.

Peter Hobbs, chief executive, said: "As part of a powerful and influential network that works on behalf of more than 100,000 UK business, Kent Channel Chamber offers a range of free benefits headed up by a 24/7 advice line and legal insurance cover.

"There are some big cost-savings, too, and plenty of low-cost marketing opportunities to suit most types of businesses based in east Kent.

"Talk to any chamber member and you'll find they also enjoy meeting



BENEFITS: Peter Hobbs says the local chamber can only boost businesses

prospective clients through our popular networking events and being kept up to date with news and information via our weekly e-bulletin and regular printed newsletters.

"Kent Channel Chamber provides what local businesses need – all for less than £4 per week. It could be the best investment you make all year."

Business Week Live, to be held at the Dover Cruise Terminal on Wednesday, October 26, is an opportunity to meet the team.

CONFERENCE

Technology event set for County Hall

A CONFERENCE and exhibition to help organisations make the most of their technology to streamline services is to be held on Friday at County Hall, Maidstone.

The Kent Connects Technology Exhibition and Conference has been organised by the Kent Connects Partnership, which has been leading the way in shared ICT infrastructure to cut costs and safeguard public services since its launch in 2002.

It is aimed principally at the public sector but is also open to those in the private sector who want inspiration and expertise to help them make the most of technology in their business.

Kent Connects comprises all the Kent and Medway authorities, Kent Police and Kent Fire and Rescue Service. It has delivered millions of pounds in savings and efficiencies, made public services more accessible, increased productivity through mobile working and created a more sustainable ICT infrastructure.

The conference offers the chance to learn the latest technology ideas and to network with those facing similar challenges.

Business Week

For more business news go to businessforkent.co.uk

Initiatives to reap reward

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

THE Ashden Awards for Sustainable Energy are seeking entries from inspirational businesses, schools, not-for-profit initiatives and public-sector organisations in the county that are implementing and encouraging the use of sustainable energy.

In 2012 the Ashden Awards are interested in applicants from dynamic businesses selling innovative local renewable-energy and energy-efficiency products and services and have the potential to expand significantly.

Each year they reward groundbreaking sustainable-energy initiatives, sharing the success of winners and gaining them wider recognition. The solution may be simple, but if it is inspiring, practical and innovative, they want to hear about it.

In addition to individual prizes of up to £10,000, with an overall UK Gold Award of £20,000, winners are awarded a package of benefits including a broadcast-quality short film about their winning work, tailored business support, introductions to policymakers and, in certain cases, funders. The awards will be presented at a VIP ceremony in London in May.

Grand Designs presenter Kevin McCloud, who presented the awards in 2011, said: "The awards are vital because they bring to light such unusual, brilliant and undersung projects."

For information on eligibility criteria and an application form, visit www.ashdenawards.org/ apply.

Partnership to bear fruit

FOOD RESEARCH

EAST Malling Research has become an Associated Institution with the University of Reading in the field of food research.

The venue is widely recognised as the UK's leading research centre for the horticultural industry and the new partnership will complement the expertise at Reading in the areas of diet, health and global food security.

As an Associated Institution, EMR research staff will be invited to become honorary members of the academic staff to foster greater cooperation for the benefit of national and international food and health security.

The two organisations are already collaborating on aspects of the National Fruit Collection at Brogdale, which is managed by the University of Reading on behalf of Defra.

Professor Richard Ellis, Dean of the Faculty of Life Sciences, said: "The University of Reading and East Malling Research bring together the complementary skills of the two leading UK horticultural research providers to meet future food-security challenges."

"Associated Institution status will bring an even great degree of cooperation focused on shared scientific research, which we are very excited about."

Professor Peter Gregory, EMR chief executive, said: "It will enable us to have access to research students, library facilities and staff with both basic and strategic research expertise and perfectly complements EMR's strategic and applied-research capabilities."

Now is the time to sell your business

Economic climate no excuse not to cash in, says expert

By Joe Bill

joe.bill@archant.co.uk

RIGHT now could be the perfect time to sell your business, according to one of the county's leading financial experts.

Mike Norrie, director of Tonbridge-based Castle Corporate Finance, says whether you are looking to retire from trading and looking to cash in, or even if you are just thinking about moving on to something new, the current economic climate need not be as intimidating as it may appear.

And he believes that 2011 could be the perfect time for those looking to sell their businesses.

Chartered accountant Norrie, who has specialised in corporate finance for 20 years, said: "You have to count this within the context of the last four years. It was four years ago that Northern Rock issues happened and it was financial meltdown."

"Prior to that, people were lining up to sell their businesses because money was easy to borrow for buyers and the queue of sellers was filled with baby-boomers. These were people starting to reach their 60s and looking to cash in and head to the beach for retirement."

"Then values of owner-managed businesses, worth between say £1million and £15 million, dropped by up to a half because there were no funds available for people to buy them and everyone went into risk aversion."

"Consequently, people decided not to sell because their business used to be worth more than they were at that point and decided they would try and wait it out."



PERFECT TIMING: Mike Norrie says there are a lot of cash-rich trade buyers in the market who are looking to invest

Norrie and Castle co-director Colin Harvey believe that business-owners are starting to recognise that their companies may not get back to their previous values.

Norrie said: "A typical baby boomer is now another four years older, so people are recognising that there is no point hanging on any longer."

"The thing is, if their business has survived the last four years, it prob-

ably is quite saleable anyway because it has demonstrated a resilience and robustness. It has weathered the worst business storm in our lifetime."

Working primarily with owner-manager businesses, Castle Corporate Finance helps to structure and negotiate the sale of a business.

Norrie said: "The value of any item at any time is what someone is willing to pay."

"And right now there are a lot of cash-rich trade buyers out there. Stock-market companies have all been making good money in the last few years."

"Those profits have been piling up in cash. And if you're a quoted company or a venture capitalist, the last thing you want in volume on your balance sheet is cash because the shareholders are saying 'Well, that lot is only earning 1 per cent in interest'."

"They want that cash invested into businesses where they might earn 20 per cent."

In the last six months, Castle has seen more and more trade buyers stepping forward to ask them to watch out for businesses that are performing well.

Norrie said: "We know of a dozen quoted companies who have asked us to find target companies and they have all got cash."

"There has also never been a better time, in tax terms, to sell your business and make a capital gain."

"It is not difficult to find the buyers at the moment so long as the vendors are realistic on price expectation and realistic on the structure of a deal."

"There are buyers out there if your business is performing well."

New manager to add gloss to Dulux store in Medway

DULUX Decorator Centres' Medway store, at Kendon Business Park, Rochester, has appointed manager Samantha Smith to head up the local branch.

Smith, 27, who recently started her new role as store manager, began her career with Dulux Decorator Centres five years ago, when she joined the Medway branch as a part-time store assistant.

She progressed to supervisor at the Medway store, then moved to the Maidstone store, in Britannia Business Park, to become assistant store manager before returning to the Medway branch to take up the role of store manager.

With eight years' experience in the customer service industry, having previously worked as a shop assistant at The Works bookshop, she has been appointed for her customer-care experience and understanding of clients' needs.

APPOINTMENTS

Smith, who lives in Chatham, aims to expand the store's existing customer base by building relationships with new and current clients and raising the profile of the store in the local area.

She said: "When I first joined Dulux Decorator Centres as a store assistant, I set myself the goal of managing a store of my own."

"Working my way up from shop floor to manager level has given me a real insight and understanding of the needs of both staff members and customers, and I am sure this experience will be invaluable in my new position."

"I am excited to be leading the team at this fantastic store and to be providing the local community with top-rate services, such as one-on-one consultations and exclusive, specialist products."

Courses with horses to improve teamwork and communication

TRAINING

A NEW enterprise is offering businesses and individuals an exciting new approach to training and learning for business – using horses.

HorseSense UK, based in Mark Cross near Tunbridge Wells, uses the animals to help people develop their leadership, teamwork and communication skills.

Based on the Equine Assisted Education model developed more than 15 years ago, HorseSense UK combines the horse's natural ability to teach with carefully-selected theory and classroom learning.

"Horses make great educators," said founder and lifelong horsewoman Becci Harvey. "They provide honest and non-judgemental feedback of how you come across and your leadership style. The practical learning also helps to cement

the learning into your cellular memory, improving retention rates and making it far more likely to become your norm."

Unable to manipulate or intimidate a horse, it takes good leadership for a horse to willingly follow.

Horses are also the masters of non-verbal communication. Human-to-human interaction is surprisingly only 7 per cent words, with the remainder being voice tone and body language. By partnering with a horse you learn to develop that often-neglected 93 per cent.

Harvey set up HorseSense UK when she realised her childhood experiences had given her skills that

no other training could give.

She said: "I grew up around horses. They taught me discipline, accountability and consideration for others. However, it wasn't until I stepped into the working world that I realised how essential and valuable these skills were."

"When I realised there was a format available to train people this way, I wanted to make those same opportunities available to others. I love what I do and get a buzz seeing people's skills and confidence grow."

HorseSense UK runs individual training days and can provide group and one-to-one and training for individuals and corporate groups. All the training takes place on the ground, so no riding is involved.

Pioneering technology will save lives and cut down on animal testing

By Nick Ames

nick.ames@archant.co.uk

A REVOLUTIONARY breakthrough in drug-testing technology developed at Kent Science Park could prove a lifesaver for patients.

Midas Mediscience pioneered the groundbreaking heart-cell-based procedure from its base in Sittingbourne and it is now set to come on to the market. As well as assisting in effective vital medical treatment, it will also cut down the need for the use of animals in scientific testing.

The research-and-development company is already collaborating with several biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies and will shortly release important new data on DrugPrint, which enables scientists and regulators to reliably and predictably recognise small electrical changes when cultured heart cells are exposed to test medicines.

DrugPrint improves the effectiveness and reduces the cost of the complex processes involved in the discovery, development and safety evaluation of new drugs by providing a unique insight into human responses early in drug development while also reducing the reliance on animal testing.

After several years of development and validation testing, it now appears the pharmaceutical industry is becoming increasingly interested in using the company's technology, a key part of its screening for and safety-testing of new drugs.

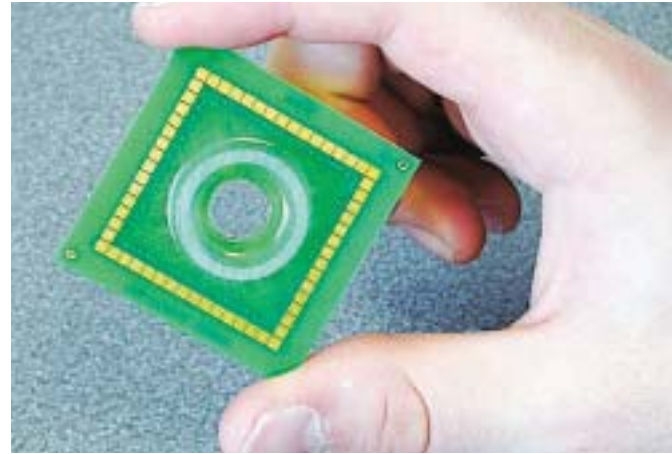
Midas cultures non-embryonic cardiomyocytes – stem cells that have been grown to behave like heart tissue – creating a simulated heartbeat, which DrugPrint is able to analyse and detect small changes.

By studying how the tissue responds to various drugs, the scientists are able to predict future risks or particular advantages of a new drug at an early stage in development.

Dr Scott Nicol, head of research and development at Midas, believes DrugPrint will be rapidly adopted by the pharmaceutical industry and regulatory agencies because of its proven accuracy and reliability.

"DrugPrint is a real winner for drug companies since it enables them to identify and fully characterise potentially toxic or dangerous compounds early – reducing costs, freeing resources for more promising new drugs and reducing the use of animal testing," he said.

"From a scientific point of view I think we are working at the absolute leading edge of applied



SUCCESS STORY:

DrugPrint is a breakthrough in drug-testing procedures, sparking much interest in the industry

science and technology. We use a model of the human heart based on non-embryonic stem cells which have been reprogrammed and shown to exhibit the key functionalities of adult human heart tissue, while DrugPrint itself is regarded as the most accurate and sensitive analytical software for pattern recognition.

"What we are now able to do was just a dream 10 years ago for everyone in the industry, and the pace of progress continues with research at Midas opening up even further possibilities for industry.

"DrugPrint is a British success story about to enter the world stage."

Midas Mediscience is majority-owned by Sultan Scientific Ltd, a specialist private-equity investor in the medical technology sector, whose chief executive, Dr Mike Hudson, is also chairman of the Midas board.

A delighted Kent Science Park site director James Speck said: "It is extremely pleasing to see the core team at Midas Mediscience achieve success with DrugPrint, and to have been able to make a significant contribution to medicine during a period of economic uncertainty.

"We are delighted to have been able to provide them with the high-specification laboratory space they required to carry out their revolutionary research and hope to be able to support them during the next phase of growth.

"It is further testament to our commitment to supporting science-based businesses of all sizes in Kent – currently reflected by the highest demand in lab space for four years, prompting us to invest in the refurbishment of 50,000 sq ft of laboratories for industrial chemistry and biological sciences research."

Word of mouth is good for business

AN Ashford 'paradise island' buy-to-let property investment consultant has thanked her local business networking group after she received more than £12 million of business deals – all through word-of-mouth referrals.

Clare Cooper, director of Crystal Sands Investments, which offers buy-to-let properties in the Caribbean, closed the record property sales over a two-and-a-half-year period.

The entrepreneur managed this through positive word-of-mouth business referrals she received at her local BNI Eureka chapter (Business Network International) group, which meets weekly in Ashford.

Ms Cooper surprised her group by awarding one of its members, Daryl Carter, director of Style Brands, with a luxury week's all-expenses-paid trip to Buccament Bay, a resort on the south-west coast of St Vincent, worth £5 000.

According to Cooper, 95 per cent of her company's business deals come from her involvement in her local BNI chapter.

She said: "Too many businesses overlook the power of word-of-mouth referrals as part of what keeps them afloat. Around 98 per cent of businesses rely on word-of-mouth referrals, yet only 3 per cent have a strategy for gaining new business this way.

"My advice to local business people is to explore locally how they can cultivate a team of colleagues to whom they can cross-refer business. In terms of the prize I offered to my fellow colleagues at BNI Eureka, well, what a better way than to allow one of my BNI sales team to check out my products for himself!"

According to BNI, which is in 42 countries around the world, and predominant in the EU, Kent in 2009 was the 'business networking capital' of Europe, based on the high numbers of referrals passed between members.



High cost of being the office gossip

OFFICE gossip is one thing the business world just cannot escape.

Talking about other people helps pass the time in almost every office, and psychologists have shown this isn't always a bad practice – it can help make for a bond and allow people to let off steam.

But a new study claims that being the office gossip does come with a minus.

To find out how gossipers were perceived by others, researchers from the European Journal of Social Psychology asked 128 participants to complete a questionnaire rating various personality traits of a person they knew who was either a serial gossip or notably quiet.

Because the word has negative connotations for some, 'gossip' was never used. Instead the participants were told to think of someone who "spent a lot of time (or little time) talking about other people when they were not around".

The survey found that those who talked about others were less trusted in the workplace than those who kept their opinions to themselves.

Sally Farley, author of the study, said: "High gossipers are individuals we welcome into our social network for fear of losing the opportunity to learn information, but we tend to keep them at arms' length."

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Apprentices on board for rebuild

A CHARITY dedicated to the restoration of an historic paddle steamer has taken on 11 new apprentices.

The Medway Queen is due to return to the county's waters next year but is currently being repaired in Bristol.

However, apprentices recruited by the Medway Queen Preservation Society are due to restore parts of the vessel, including handrails and lamp standards, in preparation for its eventual return to Gillingham pier.

Alex Stevens, 17, from Gillingham, is one of those taken on by the charity as part of Medway Council's '100 in 100' apprenticeship challenge.

He said: "What attracted me to this apprenticeship was the opportunity to get so many different skills under my belt, from carpentry to learning about ship engines.

"I'd heard about the Medway Queen through my mum and dad and I actually think it's quite an honour to work on the restoration of something that obviously means a lot to the local community."

Jobs scheme to aid City high-fliers

BROMLEY College is helping to find the City executives of the future with its apprenticeship recruitment scheme.

The most recent company to utilise the service was stockbroker Collins Sarri Statham Investments, which had two vacancies to fill for assistants in compliance and trade support.

Bromley College arranged the course development and advertised the posts nationally, helping to attract 65 applicants.

Vaughan Leyshon, director of employer engagement and enterprise, said: "At our Orpington campus we currently work with many financial services companies to help recruit their new apprentices.

"We take away the cost and time involved in the recruitment process by helping with job descriptions, uploading vacancies, filtering all employee requirements and organising applications ready for the employer to interview the relevant candidates.

"Apprenticeships are an effective means of recruiting and retaining talented people."

Warm welcome for power plant recruits

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

DUNGENESS B power station has welcomed seven new recruits onto EDF Energy's popular apprenticeship programme.

The rookies, aged between 18 and 22, embarked on a two-year engineering training course at HMS Sultan, Portsmouth, on Monday, after which they will return to Kent for a further two years' coaching at the nuclear plant.

But before that they spent a day at Dungeness getting to know the facility and the people who already work there.

The programme for the day – arranged by apprentice co-ordinator Jim French – included an introduction and full safety briefing, a tour of the power station, lunch and a feedback session.

Mr French said: "I'm looking forward to working with our new apprentices and to having, at the end of their training, quality technicians and engineers."

Plant manager Steve Coates added: "It's a real achievement to get onto the apprenticeship programme. The feedback we have about the course has been tremendous, and I look forward to following our students' progress."

Nuclear power meets about 20 per cent of the UK's electricity needs and is supplied by 19 reactors throughout Britain, the majority of which are nearing the end of their lives.

The existing Dungeness B reactor is a 1,200-megawatt twin-unit power station that employs more than 500 full-time staff but is due to be decommissioned by 2018.

EDF Energy wants to build a third plant on the site but has so far met resistance from the Government due to environ-

mental concerns.

The new apprentices are among 71 from across the country who have now started their training with the firm, including former students of Sir Roger Manwood's School in Sandwich; Orpington College; Homewood School and Sixth Form Centre in Tenterden, near Ashford; the Isle of Sheppey Academy; and the Folkestone All Age Academy.

One of the new recruits, Bromley resident Alec Watson, said: "I am very much looking forward to training. It is a unique opportunity."

Another, Becky Hanson, added: "I studied mechanical engineering at college. It's something I enjoy and I am very pleased to have the chance to continue in this field."

Earlier this week the apprentices enjoyed a week-long team-building programme in the Lake District before heading off to HMS Sultan.

First-year students are expected to spend their summer holidays at the training centre – with the exception of two weeks' leave – working on projects and assignments.

Dungeness B maintenance manager Keith Hartley said:

"It's a great training programme but we also hope our students will enjoy their time here at Dungeness B and at HMS Sultan."

Visit www.edfenergy.com for more information about the apprenticeship programme.



NUCLEAR: The Dungeness B reactor forms a key part of the EDF Energy portfolio

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Launch of new volunteering degree to tackle challenges of third sector

CANTERBURY Christ Church University aims to help grow the third sector with the launch of a new foundation degree in volunteering.

The work-based programme is the only one of its kind in the South East to specifically focus on the role of the volunteer within an organisation and their community.

Programme director Antonio Sama said: "Recently there has been a lot of emphasis on the role the voluntary sector can

play in contributing to public service provision and community development.

"As such, volunteering in the 21st century will face changes as organisations try to become more professional and adapt to new challenges.

"Although it is difficult to predict or anticipate how the future will take form, it is possible to work together in making sense of the change and influence them."

The new degree programme,

which starts this month, is structured in two levels with each containing six modules.

"The learning will be encouraged through individual and group activities both at the university and in the workplace.

Mr Sama added: "This is evidence of the commitment the university has to help individuals become supportive of their communities. Our programmes are strongly positioned to help organisations face the challenges ahead."

Asperger no barrier for talented teen

A TEENAGER with Asperger syndrome has overcome the odds to be offered a prestigious choral scholarship at Cambridge.

David Boorer, 17, from Wilmington, near Dartford, will read maths at Selwyn College after scoring A grades in A-level maths, further maths, and physics, at Sutton Valence School, near Maidstone.

Headteacher Bruce Grindlay said: "David has played a very full part in the life of the school by making the most of the opportunities available to him here.

"His commitment and hard work, combined with the support of his family and school staff, have helped him overcome his condition and realise his aspirations. We are very proud of his achievements."

Asperger syndrome is part of a group of conditions where people experience difficulties with communication and social skills, and which can lead to isolation and emotional problems.

Because there is a wide range of severity and symptoms, the conditions are collectively known as autistic spectrum disorders.

Symptoms vary from so mild that the person can function as well as anyone else around them, to so severe that they are completely unable to take part in everyday society.

David, who is a sixth form boarder and prefect at Sutton Valence, was diagnosed with the condition when he was just three, but has learned to live with it.

Outside the classroom he also took the lead



SUCCESS: New Cambridge student David Boorer

role of Jesus in the school production of Godspell, plays the piano and clarinet, performs in the school orchestra and jazz band, and is competing for a place in the National Youth Choir. He also plays rugby and is a big cricket fan.

David said: "I was overjoyed to have got to Cambridge. The exams and interviews were daunting but it's a wonderful opportunity."

Mum Sandra added: "David has had teachers who have encouraged and inspired him, and a school which has supported him in every way possible."

UCA student explores Chinese stereotype for prize-winning work

A FOUNDATION diploma student from the University for the Creative Arts (UCA) at Rochester has been awarded a prize at a national exhibition.

Amy Leung, 19, from Bexleyheath, was one of three artists to be singled out by judges as representing 'best in show' at the National Diploma Exhibition in London.

Her installation piece – Made in China – was one of 85 works on display at the exhibition.

Amy said: "I initially wanted

to create work based on my cultural heritage but ended up more interested in the perception of modern day China.

"Ideas of mass production, consumerism, capitalism, communism, labour, sweatshops, imitations, tacky and useless objects have all influenced the final installation of Made in China.

"For the installation I wanted to take on the role of a labourer and carry out the repetitive nature of making the

same pointless objects over and over again.

"The objects I chose were souvenirs which are imitations in themselves and hold a sort of cultural meaning."

Amy will be starting her fine arts degree this month and says she hopes to eventually build a career in the creative industries

"This last year has confirmed to myself what kind of work I like to make and given me more of a direction," she said.

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We are a Health & Nutrition company looking for serious people who want to earn £500-£1000+ per month full/part-time working from home. Full training and support available.

01622 671716

Teachers Needed

Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

- ✓ Daily/weekly/termly supply opportunities
- ✓ Excellent rates of pay – paid weekly
- ✓ Free in-service training and CPD assessment
- ✓ Free use of resource centre
- ✓ An out-of-hours service

Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

To find out more information and to register with us, please call us free on:

0800 731 6871

or email enquiry.ers@capita.co.uk

CAPITA
EDUCATION RESOURCING

(Age)

Committed to equal opportunities

JobsforKent.co.uk

The smart way to find a job in the County



"We grow people"

.....a 'special' school and a 'special' place to work.

We are currently looking for a

TEACHING ASSISTANT

to join and enhance our large and expanding, high calibre team.

Medway Scale, Grade D2

£15,039 - £19,126 pro-rata + SEN Allowance (£1,177)

Are you committed, motivated and enthusiastic? Does 'Every Child Matter' to you? Can you make a difference? If so, share your talents and expertise with us.

Abbey Court is located on 2 sites; Rainham (Nursery and Primary) and Strood (Secondary and Further Education), and caters for pupils aged 3-19 with Severe Learning Difficulties. Working hours are 32.5 p/w (8.45am - 3.45pm), term time only. Previous experience and/or NNEB (or equivalent) qualifications preferred. Comprehensive training and induction will be provided.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

For an application pack, please write to/telephone

(stating the role for which you are applying): Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent. ME2 3SP (01634 338236)

Please note CV's will not be accepted.

Closing date: 16.9.11



FORT PITT GRAMMAR SCHOOL

SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS COLLEGE

Fort Pitt Hill, Chatham

Kent ME4 6TJ

Tel: 01634 842359 Fax: 01634 817386

e-mail: office@fortpitt.medway.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Julia M Bell, BA(Hons)

Age range 11-18 (4fe)

800 students

FULL-TIME TEACHER OF ENGLISH

Main Professional Grade

Required 7th November 2011 (or January 1st) until May 2012 in the first instance

Fort Pitt Grammar School is a very successful 11-18 girls' Grammar School with a committed staff and well motivated students. The school achieved outstanding following an Ofsted inspection in March 2009. The school became an "outstanding converter" academy in November 2010 and we have just achieved the best A Level results in the school's history with 60% of all grades at A/B.

Are you a confident and dynamic teacher of English who could join our already very successful English department? We are looking for an outstanding and vibrant teacher who will help to maintain and raise our achievements even higher whilst excellent interaction in helping our students to realise their full potential would be a prerequisite.

The English Department teaches GCSE English and English Literature, GCSE Drama, GCSE Media Studies, GCSE Film Studies and A Level English Literature and A Level Film Studies. Experience in, or an ability to teach, one of these additional subjects would be an advantage.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

All offers of employment will be subject to successful references and an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau clearance. Please note that the school operates a no smoking policy throughout the buildings and site.

For further details please contact the Headteacher, Mrs Julia Bell. Applications should be by application form. Closing date 23rd September 2011. Interviews will be held on October 3rd 2011.



Special Schools Trust



SPORT ENGLAND



Ofsted

Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

Chemistry Technician

Ref: P0070

Medway Site

18.5 hours per week

Salary: £17,050 - £21,339 pro rata

(dependent on qualifications and experience)

We are looking to recruit a highly experienced individual to support the technical provision within the Science Department from GCSE level to HND in Applied Chemistry.

The successful candidate will be supporting staff and students throughout the Department and will hold a qualification in Chemistry at degree level or equivalent.

Previous applicants need not apply.

Closing date:

12 noon Monday 19 September 2011

For an application pack and further details visit www.midkent.ac.uk or e mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk.

Alternatively you may contact Human Resources on 01634 383102.

The College is committed to safeguarding children and young people therefore any offer of employment will be subject to a CRB check.



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01303 817040



PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT



A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH TWO COLLEGES IN THE NORTH OF KENT

A unique and exciting opportunity is available to work at Director level with two successful organisations that are committed to providing outstanding education and training.

Thanet College and North West Kent College, working in collaboration, are looking to appoint key strategic post holders through a pioneering approach to shared services.

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

SALARY £65,000 - £70,000

The Director of Human Resources is responsible for the strategic leadership and management of the respective Colleges human resources. In addition to managing the HR Division you will lead the strategic development of HR policies and procedures ensuring highly effective and responsive employment practices and an outstanding HR service.

In undertaking these responsibilities you will have; excellent strategic leadership skills with the ability to motivate inspire and develop staff, a proven track record of successfully managing multiple projects and a detailed understanding of employment law, statutory requirements and HR best practice.

DIRECTOR OF MANAGEMENT INFORMATION & PLANNING

SALARY £65,000 - £70,000

The Director of Management Information and Planning is responsible for the strategic leadership of data management and funding optimisation. In addition to the production of relevant management information you will review and improve MIS systems in both Colleges and analyse and monitor quantitative curriculum performance.

In undertaking these responsibilities you will have significant experience of working in a College information systems environment, you will possess expert knowledge of the national, regional and local developments in FE and have the ability to notify and update all relevant Managers in the College on the effect of these future funding changes and their impact on efficient course delivery.

Both post holders will be employed on a 0.6 FTE basis with North West Kent College and on a 0.4 FTE basis with Thanet College.

Closing date: 21st September 2011

Interview dates: 29th and 30th September 2011

For further details and for an application pack:
Visit Thanet College's website www.thanet.ac.uk > 'About Us' > 'Staff Vacancies'
OR Contact HR on (01843) 605052

You can send your application to us by email to hr@thanet.ac.uk or by post



RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

'EARN AS YOU LEARN' APPRENTICESHIPS

FIXED TERM FOR 36 WEEKS

Salary scale: £95 per week for 37 hours per week

Thanet College is delighted to offer exciting opportunities to 'earn as you learn' through

4 Apprenticeship posts covering a range of work areas such as:

- Business Administration
- Marketing
- Registry
- Reception Customer Service

The programme will result in a Level 2 or Level 3 qualification providing an excellent gateway into the world of employment for 16 to 18 year olds.

Closing Date for applications: 21 September 2011

For further details and an application form please visit Training Solutions on www.thanet.ac.uk or phone 01843 605052

We value the diversity of our workforce and welcome applications from all sectors of the community.

Promoting Equality

Preventing Discrimination



RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

PLUMBER / MECHANICAL ENGINEER

To work as part of the colleges in-house Facilities team, in addition to taking part in the colleges refurbishment programme.

The role will be across all the areas of the college and will involve interaction with college staff when required.

Salary scale: £19,659 - £23,040 for 37 hours per week, all year

EVENING RECEPTION/SWITCHBOARD

To provide an effective and efficient customer focussed reception and switchboard service at the highest level, acting at all times as an ambassador for the College.

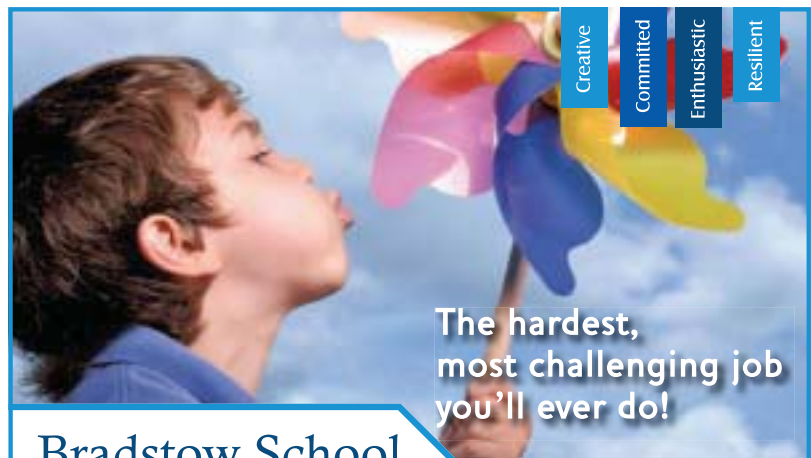
Salary scale: £1,960 - £2,109 for 6 hours per week, 38 weeks per year

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'About Us', then 'Vacancies'. If you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052

Closing date for the above posts: Wednesday 21st September 2011

Promoting Equality

Preventing Discrimination



Bradstow School

Bradstow is a fascinating and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, and have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

DEPUTY HOUSE MANAGER - CHILDCARE

£22,985 - £25,472 per annum - 41 hours per week (including split shifts and weekends) - Term time only, plus 2 weeks *

- To assist the House Manager in organising and managing a group of staff working in a residential team.
- To arrange and manage the care of the children and young adults in that team on shift.
- To manage the administration of the team.
- To take a lead role in the absence of the House Manager.

*For this role there will also be up to a maximum of two weeks for the school's respite care provision if required, for which extra payment would be paid.

For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children.

We are committed to sustainability and preserving the environment and therefore encourage applications by email, so for an application form and information pack please email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk.

Or you may call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine).

Please note that CV's will not be considered.

The closing date for all applications is 12 noon Friday 16th September 2011.



www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

To place your notice here, call the Kent Public Notice team on 01330 817044

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/11/1133/S - WILLOW GROVE, LEES ROAD, YALDING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6HB - Alterations to existing garage including erection of storage area. Reason: 1, 2

MA/11/1274/S - OWL OAST, LITTLE CHEVENEY, SHEEPHURST LANE, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9NX - Listed Building Consent for removal of part internal separating wall. Reason: 3

MA/11/1381/S - 92, THE QUARRIES, BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4NJ - Erection of a two storey rear extension. Reason: 1

Reasons for advertisement key:

- 1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
- 2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
- 3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **25th September 2011**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. Dated: **11th September 2011.**



Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

11/02524/FUL Moat Bungalow Cranbrook Road, Benenden

- Demolition of existing bungalow and replace with a dwelling and detached garage (PROW) (LB)

11/02514/FULMJ Part OS Plots 3542 And 3237 Penshurst Road, Bidborough

- Construction of farm building and temporary dwelling for farm worker (MAJOR)

11/02250/FUL Strange Electrical Ltd St Albans Works, Broadwater

- Conversion of office/storeroom into two mews cottages (CA)

11/02040/FUL Shipmans Stone Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst

- Alterations including the replacement of the shop front windows, the extension of the hallway between the rear building and the link to the house, the insertion of two patio doors on the facade of the rear building and the extended hallway, the construction of a new stair to access the attic of the rear building, replacement of the existing collars of the roof to the attic of the rear building with new rafter ties and purlin struts, the reinstatement of the new chimney in the rear building, the erection of a brick gardens shed and a new angle conservatory, the demolition of a sectional concrete garage and the erection of a new wooden carport, the renovation or extension of the existing bathrooms and provision for a new bathroom in one of the attic rooms, the installation of new heating and electrical services and other internal alterations (CA) (LB)

11/02041/LBC Shipmans Stone Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst

- Listed Building Consent: Alterations including the replacement of the shop front windows, the extension of the hallway between the rear building and the link to the house, the insertion of two patio doors on the facade of the rear building and the extended hallway, the construction of a new stair to access the attic of the rear building, the replacement of the existing collars of the roof to the attic of the rear building with new rafter ties and purlin struts, the reinstatement of the stack chimney in the rear building, the erection of a brick garden shed and a new angle conservatory, the demolition of a sectional concrete garage and the erection of a new wooden carport, the renovation or extension of the existing bathrooms and provision for a new bathroom in one of the attic rooms, the installation of new heating and electrical services and other internal alterations (LB)

11/02578/HOUSE Collins Place The Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst

- Create two bedrooms and a bathroom in the loft space, one of the bedrooms to be incorporated in an existing loft room (CA) (LB)

11/02579/LBC Collins Place The Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst

- Listed building consent - create two bedrooms and a bathroom in the loft space, one of the bedrooms to be incorporated in an existing loft room (LB)

11/02539/LBC The Coach House Little Bewl Bridge Farm, Goudhurst

- Listed Building Consent: Stabilising of plinth construction beneath the ground cills which incorporates below ground work (LB)

11/02469/LBC Ricards Toft School Hill, Lamberhurst

- Listed Building Consent: Strip off existing tiles, battens, felt and all other associated roofing materials to front roof elevation, retaining as many of the original tiles as possible for re-use (LB)

11/02600/HOUSE Applewood Cottage Mount Pleasant, Lamberhurst

- First floor rear extension (LB)

11/01621/FULMJ 3 - 5 Eldon Way Paddock Wood, Paddock Wood

- Change of use to vehicle depot for non-emergency NHS vehicles (preparation, general maintenance and security) with ancillary offices, welfare facilities and parking. Refurbishment to include over cladding of external walls, replacement of vehicular door (MAJOR)

11/02416/HOUSE Mile Oak Farm Mile Oak Road, Paddock Wood

- Completion and alterations to implemented planning permission TW/83/1296 for a two storey extension and attached garage. Amendments include dormer window and changes to doors of the approved garage extension (LB)

11/02067/HOUSE Topaz 62 Madeira Park, Pantiles & St Marks

- Raise flat roof to garage by 300 mm. Removal of garage door, replaced by window. Insertion of bathroom window (CA)

11/02402/LBC Fairlawn House 22 Mount Sion, Pantiles & St Marks

- Listed Building Consent: Installation of two safety handrails to front steps leading to main entrance door (LB)

11/02511/FUL Stephen Gardiner Architects 23 Berkeley Road, Pantiles & St Marks

- Change of use of ground floor from offices to residential and external alterations to ground floor level (CA) (LB)

11/02526/HOUSE 23A Berkeley Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks

- Dormer window on rear elevation (CA) (LB)

11/02561/HOUSE 46 Madeira Park Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks

- Alterations to windows; removal of 1 no. chimney stack; removal of spiral fire escape and landing (CA)

11/02588/HOUSE 17 Frant Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks

- Installation of gates to vehicle and pedestrian entrances (CA)

11/02582/FUL 3 High Street Pembury, Pembury

- Change of use from vehicle repair workshop (Class B2) to convenience retail (Class A1) (CA)

11/02517/FUL Christ Church Prospect Road, Southborough And High Brooms

- Single storey extension to existing church to replace existing kitchen and lavatories and to provide a new hall, meeting room and office (LB)

11/02565/LBC Forge House Offices The Green, Speldhurst

- Listed Building Consent: Re-tilling roof and adding insulation, cladding brickwork gable on east elevation, installation of rooflight (LB)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting A Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe-Head of Planning ServicesTown Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 10 September 2011



PLANNING

Planning applications



Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA/11/00861/FUL: 130 Regent Street, Whitstable, CT5 1JW Replacement windows and door to front of dwelling. Applicant: Ms Payton
Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01279/FUL: The Thomas Ingoldsbys, 5-9 Burgate, Canterbury, CT1 2HG Extension and relocation of kitchen extract ductwork to rear elevation. Applicant: J D Wetherspoon PLC Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01294/FUL: The Former Hog and Donkey Public House, North Stream, Chislehurst, CT3 4EH Change of use of public house to residential with associated extensions and alterations. (Revised scheme). Applicant: Mrs B Wakeling Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01335/FUL: 56A High Street, Whitstable, CT5 1BD Change of use from auction room to residential use. Applicant: Miss Beard
Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01414/FUL: 38 South Road, Herne Bay, CT6 5AS Demolition of existing garage and workshop and erection of detached dwelling. (Revised scheme). Applicant: Cains Property Partnership Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01431/FUL: 14 Mariners Lee, Northwood Road, Whitstable, CT5 2FB First-floor extension to side of dwelling and external balcony. Applicant: Mrs Chapman Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01469/LB: Stonerocks Farm, Hawe Lane, Sturry, CT2 0LP Erection of building for swimming pool enclosure. (Revised scheme). Applicant: Mr Mark Vinter Reason: Work to a listed building.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to development.control@canterbury.gov.uk to arrive on or before **Monday 3 October 2011.**

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 9 September 2011

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR PLANNING PERMISSION
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
(DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)
(ENGLAND) ORDER 2010
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13

KCC/TW/0379/2011 - Proposed development at
Horsmonden Wastewater Treatment Works,
Grovehurst Lane, Horsmonden, Kent, TN12 8BQ.

Southern Water Limited is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for construction of three buildings (GRP Kiosks) and other minor works as part of upgrades to Horsmonden Wastewater Treatment Works.

You may view this application at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB.

KCC/AS/0365/2011 - Proposed development at
KCC Household Waste Recycling Centre, Brunswick
Road, Cobbs Wood Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent,
TN23 1EL.

Kent County Council is applying to the County Planning Authority for planning permission for the redevelopment of existing waste management recycling centre to provide enhanced facilities and revised internal layout; construction of administrative building and construction of new waste transfer station with independent vehicular access and weighbridge.

You may view this application at the following locations: -

- a) Ashford Borough Council, Central Reception in the Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford
- b) Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford
- c) Tenterden Gateway, 2 Manor Row, High Street, Tenterden

Alternatively, details of all applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/planning or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning
Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 11 September 2011



PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

PUBLIC NOTICE LICENSING ACT 2003

I Nimish Ashar am applying for a new premises licence at the Newsmarket, Unit 11 Rainham Shopping Centre, Rainham, Kent ME8 7HW. My application is made to Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR. I am applying for the following licensable activities Sale of Alcohol & opening hours of the premises Monday to Saturday 8am – 7pm and Sunday 10am - 3pm. Should you wish to make representations to the council it must be in writing and/or you can view my application by contacting the council on 01634 337107 or 337108 by 30th September 2011. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £5,000.

Licensing Act 2003
Application for Premises Licence

Take notice that Massoud Varnaseri has made an application under section 17 of the licensing Act 2003 for a premises licence for (Bar 10), 9 -10 Royal Star Arcade Maidstone Kent ME14 1JL.

This application has been made to Maidstone Borough Council. Full details of the application and plans can be viewed at Maidstone Borough Council King Street ME15 6JQ during normal hours of business.

Any interested party who wishes to make a representation about this application should do so in writing to Maidstone Council no later than 4th October 2011.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application which, upon conviction, carries a maximum fine of £5,000.

Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that Pankaj Manibhai Patel of 186 Rochester Road, Gravesend, Kent. DA12 4TY has applied to Gravesham Borough Council for the Variation of 1. change of layout of alcohol in premises 2. Extension of hours for sale of alcohol - Monday to Sunday – 05:00 am to 23:00 pm for the premises Newsbox situated at 186 Rochester Road, Gravesend, Kent. DA12 4TY.

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at <http://www.gravesham.gov.uk/licensing> or at Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent. DA12 1AU. Tel: 01474 337334 by appointment with the Licensing Team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

Any person wishing to submit representations to my/our application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 20/09/2011.

The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm. In the case of an application for a provisional statement, please note that representations will be restricted once a statement has been issued.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

PROW - Borough of Ashford**IN THE BOROUGH OF ASHFORD****NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER****HIGHWAYS ACT 1980****THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL****(PUBLIC FOOTPATH AE515 (PART) BILSINGTON)****PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2011**

The above Order made under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 to divert the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered AE515 which commences at NGR TR 0199 3672 (Point A) on the Order Plan, and continues in a north north-easterly direction for 62 metres to NGR TR 0203 3677 (Point B). Between points A-B on the Order Plan; and will add a new length of public footpath numbered AE515 with a width of 2.0 metres which commences at NGR TR 0199 3672 (Point A) on the Order Plan, and continues in a northerly direction for approximately 74 metres to NGR TR 0201 3679 (point C). Between points A-C on the Order Plan. All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, TN23 1PL or the Kent County Council, Environment & Waste at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

Any representation about or objection to the Order may be sent in writing to Matthew Garvey at the address below (Tel: 01622 221971) before 10 October 2011. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

If no representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, Kent County Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

PROW - Borough of Gravesham**NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH NG1****(PUBLIC FOOTPATH NG1)****(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(3), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath NG1 (south of Denton Wharf) between NGR TQ 664 742 and NGR TQ 665 743 from the 22nd September 2011

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 1st December 2011

The path is to be closed because works are planned on or near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is via Mark Lane and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Alison Andressen

PROW - Borough of Maidstone**IN THE BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE****NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER****HIGHWAYS ACT 1980****THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL****(PUBLIC FOOTPATH KB28 (PART) MAIDSTONE)****PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2011**

The above Order made under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 to divert the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered KB28 which commences at NGR TQ 7843 5250 (Point A) on the Order Plan, and runs in a west north-westerly direction for 38 metres to NGR TQ 7840 5251 (Point B), the route turns in a south-westerly direction for 74 metres to NGR TQ 7836 5245 (Point C). Between points A-B-C on the Order Plan; and will add a new length of public footpath numbered KB28 with a width of 2.0 metres which commences at NGR TQ 7843 5250 (Point A) on the Order Plan, and runs in a southerly direction for 109 metres to NGR TQ 7845 5240 (Point D). Between points A-D on the Order Plan. All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ or the Kent County Council, Environment & Waste at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14

1XX during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

Any representation about or objection to the Order may be sent in writing to Matthew Garvey at the address below (Tel: 01622 221971) before 10 October 2011. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

If no representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, Kent County Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

PROW - District of Sevenoaks**IN THE DISTRICT OF SEVENOAKS****NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER****HIGHWAYS ACT 1980****WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981****THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL****(PUBLIC FOOTPATH SR396 (PART) AT WESTERHAM) PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2011**

The above Order, made under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 will divert the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered SR396 which commences at NGR TQ 4437 4933 (point A) and runs in an east-north-easterly direction for 683 metres to its connection with Pootings Road (B269) at NGR TQ 4485 4966 (point B), to a new length of public footpath numbered SR396 with a width of 2.0 metres, except where the new path is to be enclosed by hedges and/or fencing where it has a width of 2.5 metres, which commences at the aforementioned point A. The path runs along a headland in a generally northerly direction for approximately 225 metres to NGR TQ 4435 4955 (point C), then turns to run along another headland in a generally east-north-easterly direction for approximately 190 metres to NGR TQ 4452 4963 (point D). From here the path is bounded on either side by fencing and/or hedging and runs in a generally east-north-easterly direction for approximately 74 metres to NGR TQ 4459 4965 (point E), after which it runs beside a hedge/fence on the northern side. The path continues to run in a generally east-north-easterly direction for approximately 23 metres after which it crosses into the field to the north at NGR TQ 4461 4966 (point F). For the next 35 metres, to NGR TQ 4463 4968 (point G), the path is bounded on both sides, and then runs beside a hedge/fence for a further 46 metres to NGR TQ 4468 4970 (point H). The path then turns to run along a headland in a generally north-north-westerly direction for approximately 93 metres to NGR TQ 4466 4979 (point I) and then turns again to run in a generally east-north-easterly direction for approximately 117 metres to its connection with Pootings Road (B269) at NGR TQ 4476 4983 (point J). (Between points A-C-D-E-F-G-H-I-J on the Order plan).

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the offices of Sevenoaks District Council, P O Box 183, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1HG or at the Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

Any representations about or objections to the Order must be sent in writing to Mrs Maria McLauchlan at the Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX (Tel: 01622 696871) before 10th October 2011. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

If no representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, Kent County Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

IN THE DISTRICT OF SEVENOAKS**NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER****HIGHWAYS ACT 1980****KENT COUNTY COUNCIL****PUBLIC FOOTPATH SD284 (PART) WEST KINGSDOWN PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2010**

On 23RD September 2011, an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs confirmed, with modification (by deleting the reference in paragraph 3 to a previous Order) the above Order under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to divert that length of Public Footpath SD284 which commences at its junction with Public Footpath SD283 (GR 5775 6057) and runs in a generally south south westerly direction for 292 metres to pass the southern side of Drane Farm Oast to then run south westerly for a further 48 metres to (GR 5758 6029) as shown between points A, B and C on the Order Plan.

A new length of Public Footpath SD284 with an initial width of 2 metres will be provided commencing at the previously described point A (GR 5775 6057) and running in a generally south-south westerly direction for approximately 260 metres crossing an arable field and then to continue for a further 4 metres in the same direction crossing the driveway to Drane Farm Oast and Highbury Barn to a gap in the boundary hedgerow at point X (GR 5771 6032). From this point, the new path turns in a westerly direction and with a width of 3 metres follows the adjacent farm accommodation track on the southern side of the boundary hedge for 132 metres to rejoin the existing line of SD 284 at the aforementioned point C. As shown between points A, X and C on the Order Plan.

A copy of the modified Order and Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge during normal office hours at the offices of the Sevenoaks District Council, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks. Alternatively, copies may also be viewed at the Customer and Communities division of Kent County Council, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX Tel (01622) 221511 and copies of the Order and map may also be bought there.

The Order comes into force on the 20th September 2011, but if a person aggrieved by the Order wants to question its validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act which has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may under Paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by Paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from 11th September 2011, make an application to the High Court.

PROW - Borough of Swale**NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATHS ZS13 (PART), ZS20 AND ZS46 (PART),****IN THE PARISH OF MINSTER ON SEA****PUBLIC FOOTPATHS ZS13 (PART), ZS20 AND ZS46 (PART), MINSTER ON SEA (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 sections 16A - 16C as inserted by the Road Traffic Regulation (Special Events) Act 1994 and amended by The Kent County Council (Filming On Highways) Act 2010

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close:

Public Footpath ZS13 (Part) between NGR TQ 938 678, 120 metres south of Kings Hill Farm, and NGR TQ 935 669, junction with Public Footpath ZS20,

Public Footpath ZS20, between NGR TQ 928 677, junction with Public Bridleway ZS21 and NGR TQ 935 669, junction with Public Footpath ZS13 at the access to the former Elmley Ferry crossing, and

Public Footpath ZS46 (part), between NGR TQ 940 675, junction with private track, and NGR TQ 936 672, junction with Public Footpath ZS13 from the 20 September 2011.

The paths will be closed for a maximum of ten days. The Secretary of State for Transport has consented to this extended closure period. It is expected that they will reopen on 29 September 2011.

The paths are to be closed to enable the making of a film.

The alternative route is via Public Bridleway ZS21, part of Public Footpath ZS13 and private track to join Public Footpath ZS46 and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Michael Ellis

The above notice(s) may be provided in other formats

**For further information, please contact
Kent Countryside Access Service,
on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess**

PROW - Borough of Tonbridge and Malling**IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE AND MALLING****NOTICE OF MODIFICATION ORDER****WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981****DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT****THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL****(FOOTPATH MR602 AT SNODLAND)****DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2011**

The above Order was made on 10th August 2011 under section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. It confirmed, it will modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by adding a Footpath (MR602) with a width of 2 metres which commences on Bingley Close at the entrance to the garages at the rear of properties on Bingley Close at NGR TQ 7004 6183 (Point A), running in a north north- easterly direction for 31 metres and then turns in an east south- easterly direction for 38 metres to join with Birling Road at NGR TQ 7009 6185 (Point B). (Between Point A and B on the Order Plan).

All distances are approximate, all directions are general.

A copy of the Order and Map may be seen free of charge during normal office hours at the offices of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may also be purchased there.

Any representation about or objection to the Order must be sent or delivered in writing to Matthew Garvey at the Kent County Council (address as below) no later than 24 October 2011. Please state the grounds on which it is made.

If no such representations or objections are duly made to the Order (or to any part of it), or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council, instead of submitting the Order to the Secretary of State (or part of it if the Authority has by Notice to the Secretary of State so elected under paragraph 5 of schedule 15 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) may itself confirm the Order (or that part of the Order). If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment (in whole or in part), any representations or objections which have been duly made and not been withdrawn will be sent with it.

PROW - Borough of Tunbridge Wells**NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH WT254****IN THE PARISH OF PADDOCK WOOD****(PUBLIC FOOTPATH WT254)****(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 Section 14(1), As Amended By The Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath WT254, between the junction with Public Footpath WT253 (NGR TQ 676 452) and the junction with Church Road / The Cedars from the 23rd September 2011.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 25th September 2011.

The path is to be closed because works to lay electrical services are planned on or near it.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact Jonathan Bibby

**Countryside Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX**

Dated: 11th September 2011



To place your notice here call the Kent Public Notice team on 01303 817044

HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford

(A28 ASHFORD ROAD, BETHERSDEN, ASHFORD)

(SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2011

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers under Sections 81, 82, 83 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers has made an Order, the effect of which is to:-

Install a new length of 30mph speed limit of the Ashford Road, Bethersden (to replace the existing 40mph limit) from a point 11.5 metres south east of its entrance to Bean Place in a westerly direction, for approximately 1361 metres, to a point 14.5 metres south west of the entrance to Beult Cottage.

A copy of the Order, which comes into operation on 12 September 2011, together with an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads affected by the new provisions may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of the Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Orders.

BLACKWALL ROAD, SMEETH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the installation of a new electricity supply cable, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Blackwall Road, Smeeth, on or after 26 September 2011 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Blackwell Farm.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Blackwall Road North/South and Goodcheap Lane.

The alternative route is via Blackwall Road North/South, A2070 Kennington Road, The Street, Hinxhill Road and Goodcheap Lane.

COOPERS LANE, MERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of excavations to lay a high voltage cable, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Coopers Lane, Mersham, on or after 26 September 2011 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Frithfield Farm.

The alternative route is via Frith Road, Chequer Tree Farm Road and Colliers Hill.

GRIGSBY LANE, SMARDEN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of excavations to provide a new electricity supply, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Grigsby Lane, Smarden, on or after 26 September 2011 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Thorn Farm.

The alternative route is via Biddenden Road, Bethersden Road and Luckhurst Lane.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
HEADCORN ROAD, LIVERTON STREET (LIVERTON HILL)
30 MPH SPEED LIMIT

Notice is hereby given that the KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Orders under section 84(1), (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, (hereinafter called "the Act") and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act,

The effect of the proposed Order will introduce a 30 mph speed limit in Headcorn Road, Liverton Street (Liverton Hill) on the following length of street:

Headcorn Road, Liverton Street (Liverton Hill)	From a point 3 metres south of the northern boundary of Orchard Bungalow, southwards to a point 19 metres south west of the southern boundary of Liverton House.
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Full details are contained in the draft Order which together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of the council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be

examined on Monday to Friday at Kent County Council, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to:

Michael Heath, Member Highway Fund Traffic Engineer, Kent County Council, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD.

Or by email to Michael.heath@kent.gov.uk by 12 noon on Monday 3rd October 2011

(A28 ST MICHAELS, TENTERDEN)

(SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2011

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers under Sections 81, 82, 83 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers has made an Order, the effect of which is to:-

Remove a section of the existing 40 mph speed limit from the northern boundary of a property named Churchfields, for a distance of approximately 950 metres in a southwards direction, which will, by virtue of a system of street lighting set less than 183 metres apart, automatically impose restricted road status (30mph) on this length of the Ashford Road (A28) St Michaels, Tenterden.

A copy of the Order, which comes into operation on 18 October 2011, together with an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads affected by the new provisions may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of the Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Orders.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(B2080 THE STREET, APPLEDORE, ASHFORD)

(SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2011

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers under Sections 81, 82, 83 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers has made an Order, the effect of which is to:-

Extend the existing 30mph speed limit in The Street, from a point adjacent to 75 The Street (the existing speed limit terminal point), in a northerly direction for approximately 211 metres, to a point 15 metres north of the junction with Hawthorn.

A copy of the Order, which comes into operation on 21 October 2011, together with an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads affected by the new provisions may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of the Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Orders.

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

MANOR ROAD, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting northbound traffic on Manor Road, Whitstable, on or after 12 September 2011 for up to 6 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed northbound only between the junctions with Tankerton Road and Northwood Road.

The alternative route is via Northwood Road, Graystone Road and B2205 Tankerton Road.

Southbound traffic is unaffected.

THE STREET, WICKHAMBREAUX (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of ducting works in the carriageway, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on The Street, Wickhambreaux, on or after 15 September 2011 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Ivy Cottage and The Old Workhouse.

The alternative route is via Wickham Road (Wickham Court Lane), Grove Road and The List.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

A2260 SOUTHFLEET ROAD, SWANSCOMBE AND GREENHITHE - (TEMPORARY SPEED RESTRICTION) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting all traffic travelling at any speed excess of 40mph on A2260 Southfleet Road, Swanscombe and Greenhithe between the roundabout at the junction of International Way to the roundabout at entrance to the Northfleet West Grid Sub Station.

The Order will become effective on 12th September 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the restriction is planned to last 3 nights. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The purpose of the restriction is to facilitate the reduction of speed of vehicles approaching proposed works on the Ebbsfleet Station Western Roundabout gyratory.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover & Thanet

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, DOVER & THANET) (SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2011

(VARIOUS ROADS, THANET) (24 HOUR CLEARWAY) ORDER 2011 (TOUCAN CROSSING, THANET) ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Following the consultation that was carried out in early August 2011 all references to "Ebbsfleet roundabout" shall be amended to say "Tubbs roundabout". This includes the location of the Toucan crossing which will be located approximately 60 metres south west of the midpoint of its junction with what is now called "Tubbs roundabout".

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers has made Orders under Sections 1(1), 2(1) and 2(2), Sections 81 to 84 of and part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended, the effect of which has introduced "No Stopping - At Any Time" and speed limits to be enforced on lengths of the newly constructed sections of the A299 and A256 (known as the East Kent Access Road Phase 2) within Thanet and Dover.

Phase 1 of East Kent Access was constructed and opened several years ago. Phase 2 includes the construction of the A299 Hengist Way, from "Minster roundabout" eastwards, to "Cliffsend roundabout" southwards, to "Sevenscore roundabout" and eastwards to "Lord of the Manor junction"; and the A256 Richborough Way is from "Sevenscore roundabout" southwards, to "Richborough roundabout.

Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd has been commissioned to work in partnership with the Kent County Council to progress the legal procedures necessary to implement the proposed measures.

A copy of the scheme which will come into operation on Monday 12th September 2011, an explanatory statement and a plan showing the extents of the scheme can be inspected during normal office hours at the Kent County Council Offices, Sessions House, County Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ, Dover District Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield, Dover CT16 3PJ, Thanet District Council Offices, PO Box 9, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent, CT9 1XZ, and affected Parish and Town Councils which are: Acol PC, Cliffsend PC, Manston PC, Minster, Minster-in-sea PC, Ramsgate TC and Sandwich TC.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within

the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (HIGH STREET, MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF EASTBOUND TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by eastbound traffic on High Street between number 34 and Mill Street on or after Sunday 18th September 2011 when required for a period of up to 1 month or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Fairmeadow, Earl Street, Pudding Lane.

Eurovia Contracting Ltd apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for the removal of carriageway traffic and refuge islands and the construction of a new courtesy crossing. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is David Waggett on 0208 344 9630.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (WALLIS AVENUE MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on Wallis Avenue , Maidstone from the junction with A274 Sutton Road to the junction with Bell Road on or after Monday 26th September 2011for an estimated period of up to 5 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for Wallis Avenue is Sutton Road, Wallis Avenue southbound and Bell Road, Wallis Avenue and Sutton Road Northbound.

Southern Gas Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to replace the gas mains. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is John Adsley on 08450 0701431

For further information or comment please call Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

ROCK HILL, SHOREHAM - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Rock Hill, Shoreham between Well Hill and Firmingers Road.

The Order will become effective on 12th September 2011. It will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months. The restriction will be effective when required and when the appropriate signage is in place. The works are planned to commence 15th September 2011 and last for 5 days.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Well Hill and Firmingers Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate verge and edge of carriageway repair works.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

CANNON STREET, LYDD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a new wastewater connection, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Cannon Street, Lydd, on or after 12 September 2011 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside number 2.

For further information, please contact

Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,

on 08458 247 800 (local rate)

or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



HIGHWAYS

The alternative route is via High Street, New Lane and New Street.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(EAST AND NORTH EAST FOLKESTONE AREAS)
(WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2011**

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above names order under Sections, 1, 2(4) and part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part 111 of the Schedule 9 to the Act, hereby make the following Order:-

The effect of the order will be to introduce a weight limit on the following roads for their entire length:-

Hollands Avenue, Whitecliffe Way, Warren Way, Warren Close, Neason Way, Thanet Gardens, Hasborough Road, Varne Place, Varne Road, Wear Bay Crescent, Seagrave Crescent, Seagrave Road, Penfold Road, Burrow Road, Foreland Avenue.

The effect of the order will also introduce a weight limit for a specified distance on the following lengths of road:-

1. Wear Bay Road - From a point 10 metres East of the junction with Bowles Well Gardens to the junction with Radnor Bridge Road.
2. Warren Road - From a point 10 metres west of the junction with Brady Road to the junction with Foreland Avenue.
3. Radnor Bridge Road - From the junction with Ryland Place to the junction with Wear Bay Road.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Kent Highway Services, Javelin Way

Ashford, TN24 8AD, between 8.30am and 5.00pm, and at Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate, during normal opening times.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to the Traffic Schemes and Member Highway Fund Manager, Kent Highway Services, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to td.eastkent@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 24th October 2011.

HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

**CHURCH HILL, HERNHILL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Hill, Hernhill, on or after 12 September 2011 for up to 4 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with Staple Street.

The alternative route is via Staple Street, Kemsdale Road and Kays Lane.

**HEAD HILL ROAD, GRAVENEY
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Head Hill Road, Graveney, on or after 17 September 2011, as shown below.

The initial closure is planned for 17 & 18 September 2011 outside Poplar Hall Farm.

The next closure is planned for 24 & 25 September 2011 outside Forge Cottages.

The alternative route is via Seasalter Road, Faversham Road (note 11' 6" height restriction), Joy Lane, Borstal Hill, A299 Thanet Way and Head Hill.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, BREDGAR AND TUNSTALL, SWALE)
(40 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2011**

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers under Sections 81, 82, 83 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers has made an Order, the effect of which is to:-

Introduce a 40 mph speed limit on the following roads or lengths of road:

Bredgar Road	from the junction with Rookery Close for a distance of 420 metres in an easterly direction and 220 metres in a westerly direction to the existing 30 mph speed limit terminal.
Swanton Street	from the junction with Bashford Barn Lane for a distance of 600 metres in a southerly direction and 375 metres in a northerly direction to the existing 30 mph speed limit terminal.

A copy of the Order, which comes into operation on 24 October 2011, together with an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads affected by the new provisions may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of the Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Orders.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(MANSTON ROAD, THANET) (30 MPH SPEED LIMIT)
ORDER 2011**

The Kent County Council in exercise of their powers under sections 82(2), 83(2) and 84(1)(a) and (2) and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to that Act, hereby make the following Order:

1. No person shall drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 30 miles per hour in Manston Road, Thanet, from the point 576.5 metres north-east of its junction with Manston Road (B2050) to the point 10 metres north-east of the boundary line of Rosemary Nursery.
2. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Kent Highway Services, Javelin Way

Ashford, TN24 8AD, between 8.30am and 5.00pm, and at Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate, during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose

**A256 SANDWICH ROAD, RAMSGATE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

To allow the construction of a new junction on the south side of the Lord of the Manor Interchange and tie this into Sandwich Road, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on the A256 Sandwich Road, Ramsgate, on or after 26 September 2011 for up to 14 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the existing Lord of the Manor southern roundabout to and including the junction with Cliffs End Road.

The alternative route is via the New A256 'Richborough Way' to Sevenscore Roundabout, New A299 'Hengist Way' to Cliffsend Roundabout and A299 Canterbury Road West.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, THANET) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS
AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (AMENDMENT NO 38)
ORDER 2011**

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to introduce no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the following lengths of road:-

1. Millmead Road - on the southern side between points 10 metres north west and 10 metres south east of the junction with the eastern arm of Western Road.
2. Millmead Road - on the southern side between points 10 metres north west and 10 metres south east of the junction with Arlington Gardens.
3. Western Road (eastern arm) - on both sides from the junction with Millmead Road for a distance of 10 metres in a south westerly direction.
4. Arlington Gardens - on both sides from the junction with Millmead Road for a distance of 10 metres in a south westerly direction.

The order will remove the School Keep Clear markings in Millmead Road and a new zebra crossing will be located near to this location.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Kent Highway Services, Javelin Way

Ashford, TN24 8AD, between 8.30am and 5.00pm, and at Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate, during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose

HIGHWAYS -

Borough of Tonbridge and Malling

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(COACH ROAD , IGHAM) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use

by through traffic on Coach Road, Igham from the junction of Sandy Lane / Pine Tree Lane heading north for 150 Metres on or after Wednesday 14th September 2011 when required for a period of up to 1 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is Copy Hall Road , Common Road and Ismay Road and vice versa.

BT apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary make provision of a new telegraph pole for a new customer connection. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Nicola Web on 0870 0500792.

For further information or comment please call Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(GILLETTS LANE, EAST MALLING)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Gilletts Lane from the side off number 47 Wateringbury Road on or after Monday 12th September 2011 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Chapel Street and The Rocks Road.

Southern Gas Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to provide a connection to a property. Should you require any further information for these works, the contact is Alex McDonald on 07711 491570.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(WAGON LANE & LUCKS LANE, LEVEL CROSSINGS,
PADDOCK WOOD) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Wagon Lane between 08.00hrs and 13.00hrs and Lucks Lane between 13.15hrs and 18.00hrs at the level crossing on or after Sunday 2nd October 2011 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for Wagon Lane is via Wagon Lane, Queen Street, Lucks Lane, B2160 Maidstone Road, Wagon Lane and for Lucks Lane via Queen Street, Wagon Lane, B2160 Maidstone Road, Lucks Lane.

Network Rail apologise for any inconvenience caused, which is necessary for repairs to the level crossings and reinstating white lining. Should you require any further information for these works, please contact Emma Osborne on 07791 179882.

Katherine Kerswell
Group Managing Director
Invicta House
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Dated 11th September 2011

For further information, please contact
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BIRTHS

BUTCHER

Simon and Sandra of Herne Bay are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their beautiful son, Henry Luis David, on 23rd August, 2011. A new brother for Caitlin and William.

CHOWDHURY

Yaser Rehan born on 19th August, 2011, weighing 8lb 14oz. Son to Rezu and Bubly Chowdhury in Maidstone.

COSTELLO

Nicola and Michael Costello celebrate the birth of their daughter Harriet Mae Costello on 23rd August, 2011, baby sister to Will Costello.

DEEGAN

Danny Gary born on 14th August, 2011, at the William Harvey Hospital, weighing 6lb 4oz. Son to Daniel and Stacey, brother to Jordan, Bill-John, Maizie-Lee, Alfie, Ellie-May, Ruby and Honor.

GAMBRELL

Samantha and Adam Gambrell are pleased to announce the safe arrival of Jack Sidney born on the 19th August, 2011, weighing 9lb 8oz. A little brother for Chloe.

GODDEN

Melissa and Shane of Deal are delighted to announce the birth of their twins, a boy and girl, Alfie-Lee George Godden and Stevie-Leigh Shayne Godden, born on 27th August, 2011, at William Harvey Hospital, Ashford. Our most beautiful and precious son and daughter.

GOMES OLDRIDGE

Anaïde born on 26th August, 2011, weighing 8lb 13oz. Daughter to Richard and Julie in Ash.

HALLIDAY

Hayley & Ryland would like to welcome their beautiful baby boy Hendrix Jacob Halliday, born on 24th August, 2011, weighing 7lb 11oz at the William Harvey Hospital.

THOMPSON

Eloise and Alex of Northbourne are delighted to announce the birth of their twin boys Charles Paget Marshall Thompson and Joshua Alexander Marshall Thompson, born at 21.01 and 21.07 hours at the QEQM Hospital on 19th July, 2011. Brothers for Nathaniel.

WATERS

Jason and Vickie of Canterbury welcome into the world Ronnie J D Waters on 26th August, 2011. Brother for Bailey and Harvey.

WYDYMUS

Nigel and Sam of St Margarets Bay are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their beautiful son, Jed Michael Brodie, on 21st August, 2011. A new brother for Tabitha, Briar and Marnie.

DEATHS

BELL

Irene Doris Phyllis Bell aged 86 years, dearly loved mother of Sandra, Peter, Penny, Nick and Richard. Mother to all. Died peacefully on 20th August, 2011.

LAWSON

Rosemary Ann Lawson passed away on 30th August, 2011, at the William Harvey Hospital. Will be sadly missed by family and friends.

REEVES

Helen Sheila Reeves of Ramsgate passed away on 30th August, 2011. Enquiries to H R Palmer Funerals, Ramsgate 01843 592720.

MARRIAGE LICENCES

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

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An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

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Sharon Birch

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Kent Weekend

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The adorable new arrival at wild animal park

SEE PAGE 56



PLUS: Are empty shops the answer to housing problems? - **talking point p48**
The incredible influence of the controversial Red Dean - **kent remembered p49**
Citroën ensures its new addition stands out from the crowd - **driving p75**



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THE INTERVIEW

Maureen Nolan

This is one Nolan not in the mood for dancing

It was almost 35 years ago that a group of sisters from Dublin formed one of the most memorable family pop groups Europe has ever seen. In 1979, the group released I'm In The Mood For Dancing, one of the most unforgettable pop songs and one that would propel them into music-charts history.

On the back of that success The Nolans relocated to Blackpool and began a showbiz life of pop music, acting and performing.

Three decades later, Maureen Nolan is continuing to wow audiences, but now it is with her acting skills as she makes a career on the stage.

The 57-year-old is starring in a moving musical about the life of American singer Eva Cassidy called Over The Rainbow, after her treasured rendition of the famous song.

Nolan said: "I am an absolutely massive fan – I love her voice. It's the Karen Carpenter way of singing, isn't it. It's beautiful and free."

"When I was asked, I jumped at the chance to get involved. It's just a shame I am not young enough any more to play Eva. I play everybody's mother these days."

Fresh from stints in classic stage shows like Footloose, Stardust and Blood Brothers, Nolan joins up with producer Stephen Leatherland for the musical.

She said: "Steven approached me about the show in the West End in 2006 and I don't know what happened, but we never really got round to it."

"Then I did one of his shows this year called The Naked Truth and he asked again about the tour and this time we were able to get it done."

The show is a synopsis of Cassidy's life before she died aged just 33 and is crammed with some of the singer's greatest works, including a whopping 28 songs.

"There is lots and lots of music in the show. Obviously there are poignant moments and sad moments because of the way she died so young, but there is lots of uplifting stuff as well."

"There is a good story and it is nice to get an insight into how her life was – people don't often know a lot about her."

Nolan plays Cassidy's mother Barbara but is happy to back up former Hollyoaks actress Sarah Jane Buckley as Eva.

She said: "Sarah has got a fabulous singing voice – I don't know if people realise how good she really is."

"I play Eva's mum. All her family were musical, so I sing one song and backing on others, but not lots, I am more on the acting side of it – and no dancing, thank God! I don't think you would want me dancing."

Three decades after being a part of the 70s phenomenon that was The Nolans, Maureen Nolan is now hitting the theatrical heights, as **Joe Bill** learnt

In 1975, the Nolan Sisters were announced as the support act for the European leg of a very special crooner's tour, one Mr Frank Sinatra. And this still counts as one of Nolan's favourite memories.

She said: "That was probably the best thing we ever did. We were massive fans

6699

That was probably the best thing we ever did. It was a dream. We watched every show he did and he was so nice.

MAUREEN, ON THE NOLANS TOURING WITH THE LEGENDARY FRANK SINATRA



and my dad was a Sinatra-type singer, too, so he brought us up on that sort of music. When we got announced for that tour around Europe it was the best thing I could have ever experienced."

"It was a dream. I remember we watched every show he did, every night. He was so nice, too, which made it even better, because you always hear stories about him being a bit... but he was so nice to all of us."

"It's a part of history, he is a true legend." The Nolans split and re-formed with different members of the family on different occasions over the years but are now settled and looking to create another reunion tour.

Nolan said: "I am now on good terms with the family. We had a bit of a break-up with a couple of sisters a while back, but I am fine with everybody now, so that is much nicer."

"Our Nolans reunion tour two years ago gave me a chance to get back to doing a little bit of live music work in the best possible way. We are really hoping it might happen again next year. There have been talks about it because it was just pure fun."

There is certainly no sign of retirement just yet, but Nolan is glad that the days of gigging on the club circuit are gone.

She said: "I am at that time in my life I was glad to see the back of gigging and all that. All the small clubs were closing anyway and variety was dying. It was hard to do live gigs."

"I like getting somewhere and being told what to say and what to wear – it's good fun. As long as I am offered the parts, then I will keep going."

Over The Rainbow – The Eva Cassidy Story plays at Dartford's Orchard Theatre from Thursday to Saturday, September 15-17. Tickets are available from www.orchardtheatre.co.uk, or phone 01322 220000.

The show can also be seen at Ramsgate's Granville Theatre on Sunday, September 25. Visit www.granvilletheatre.com or phone 01843 591 750.



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TALKING POINT

Housing

Picture: MATHEW BEECH

THE UK is heading for a housing crisis according to some experts, as home ownership falls, mortgage demands get higher, and the number of first-time buyers continues to fall.

A study by the National Housing Federation revealed that home ownership in the South East was likely to fall below 70 per cent in the next 10 years.

The Federation forecast a steep rise in the private rental sector, long social housing waiting lists, and a house price boom – all fuelled by a “chronic” under-supply of homes.

The predicted drop in people buying homes was also being blamed on the need for huge deposits combined with high house prices and strict lending criteria.

National Housing Federation assistant director, Kate Dodsworth, said: “The South East is paying a high price for our totally dysfunctional housing market.

“It’s clear that home ownership is increasingly becoming the preserve of the wealthy.

“And for the millions locked out of the property market the options are becoming increasingly limited as demand sends rents rising sharply and social homes waiting lists remain at record levels.

“At the heart of this crisis is a chronic shortage of new homes.”

To ensure the demand for affordable new homes can be met, the Government is considering changing planning laws, making it easier for new development to be approved, although this has led to fears that unchecked greenfield developments could take place, threatening Kent’s status as the Garden of England by building on greenfield sites.

Kent Green Party is calling for long-term empty properties, such as shops and offices, to be turned into new residential dwellings to help meet the growing need for social housing, and to reduce the pressures for greenfield developments.

Party spokesman Steve Dawe said: “There are persistent empty units which are caused by a social change and the growth in internet shopping.

“Some types of shops are disappearing, such as bookshops and CD/music shops, which is creating a space that is not being filled.

“Not every empty site will be suitable to turn into houses but some of the larger, better built shops will work effectively as a rebuild.

“These can be townhouses or apartments and suit better because of their locations close to the railway for commuters, reducing the dependency on cars.”

Mr Dawe also believes that by turning the business units into new homes, it will also help to kick start regeneration in many urban centres across the county.

He added: “In Margate, 37 per cent of the shops are empty, which is the worst in the country, but empty shops affects the whole county.

“In Tonbridge, I counted a group of 17 shops close together which are empty, while in Sevenoaks, near to the station there is a cluster of six unit which are also empty.

“There are lots of properties out there and that are ready for conversion.

“For regeneration to happen we have to look at where the empty properties are and how best to use them.

“In the urban centres there are shops and many local businesses that rely on the footfall of passing trade, which will increase if we redevelop these properties.

“It is logical that we use the resources that exist already.”

Kent County Council does run a pioneering programme, No Use Empty, which provides loans to anyone looking to redevelop an empty

With some experts predicting that the UK is heading for a housing crisis in the next 10 years, reporter MATHEW BEECH asks whether derelict town centre shops and empty offices could provide the solution



CAN EMPTY SHOPS SAVE GREENBELT?

“““

In the urban centres there are shops and many local businesses that rely on the footfall of passing trade, which will increase if we redevelop these properties

STEVE DAWE - KENT GREEN PARTY

building and bring it back to life.

The initiative is into its fifth year and has provided more than £1.2 million in loans to the owners of empty properties to help them bring the buildings back into use.

David Ireland, chief executive of Empty Homes Agency, said: “The subject of empty homes affects real lives and real communities.

“Across the UK, the number of long-term empty properties is rising.

“However, in Kent, the number of empty homes has actually fallen in recent years and this is the only place that has happened, thanks to the No Use Empty initiative.

“Similar ideals are now being taken on across the country to emulate Kent’s practices and successes.”

More than 1,600 properties have benefited from the No Use Empty scheme, including a three-storey listed building in Dover.

The building, which is more than 100 years old and had stood empty for four years and was a target for vandals.

Once completed early next year, the project will create nine new homes with a large shared rear garden available to tenants.

The initiative has proved to be so successful

that Bristol City Council has adopted the No Use Empty brand.

Despite the work being done under the scheme, Kent Green Party believes more can and should be done to help re-invigorate Kent’s town centres, but this can only be achieved if the county council is given more resources.

Mr Dawe said: “They should have the power to take unused properties out of the hands of the owners and put them into use.

“However, they need the resources they presently do not have.

“This has led to the situation we are currently in with empty houses and shops in the urban centres.

“The new government proposals put the emphasis on giving planning permission to new developments, which is the wrong thing to do.

“It neglects the urban centres which have places empty for a long time and the Government is going in the wrong direction.

“If councils are given the resources to buy up empty properties in urban areas, then a lot of the costs of new services and infrastructure can be avoided, along with the appalling urban sprawl which results from house building on greenfield sites.”

ARE VACANT SHOPS THE ANSWER?

Kent Green Party thinks that a change of use for long term empty shops and industrial units will help solve the potential housing crisis, as well as re-invigorate our town centres

HAVE YOUR SAY...

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KENT REMEMBERED



CULTURAL REVOLUTION: Hewlett and Nowell Johnson with Chairman Mao in Peking in June, 1964

Cathedral's Red Dean who fought for peace

By Mathew Beech

mathew.beech@archant.co.uk

'THE Red Dean' Hewlett Johnson was appointed the Dean of Canterbury 80 years ago and was one of the most recognisable and controversial figures of the mid-20th century.

His views associating communist politics with Christian teachings polarised opinion, but the former dean, who was in charge of Canterbury Cathedral and the congregation between 1931-63, was an important leader in the city during World War Two, and was a significant international figure during the Cold War.

According to author John Butler, who has published a book to commemorate the appointment eight decades ago, he was the most recognisable clergyman in the country.

Mr Butler, who is also a guide at Canterbury Cathedral, examined how the Very Reverend Hewlett Johnson not only mixed with world leaders, but helped boost morale in the wartime city.

He said: "He was sympathetic to communism and for some, the name the Red Dean was an insult, while for others it was a badge of honour."

"If he is remembered as anything it is as the Red Dean, but he was a much more substantial figure."

During World War Two, Rev Johnson remained in the deanery, even though it was bombed in 1942.

Mr Butler believes that remaining in the city helped to



LEADERS: Hewlett Johnson outside the Canterbury deanery with Mahatma Gandhi in 1931

boost his popularity. He said: "He became a much-loved figure."

"When the Deanery was bombed, he could talk to people who had suffered during the raids because he knew how they were feeling."

"He provided a lot of moral leadership to people and was a community leader in the best possible sense."

The only time Rev Johnson left Canterbury during the war, was on VE Day, when he was in Moscow celebrating in Red Square, before he got a private audience with Soviet leaders Joseph Stalin and Vyacheslav Molotov.

Throughout the late 1940s and 50s as the Cold War began to escalate Rev Hewlett used his position as an important clergyman and a communist sympathiser to campaign for peace.

Mr Butler added: "In 1951, he was awarded the Stalin Peace Prize, the Soviet equivalent to the Nobel Peace Prize."

"Hewlett Johnson was one of a number of people who were part of the growing peace movement, who were desperately worried, especially as the US, the UK and the Soviets developed nuclear weapons."

"He became an international spokesperson for peace, representing the West to the Soviets and vice versa because he was one of few people accepted in Moscow and the West."

In his campaign for peace, Rev Johnson also met Cuban revolution leaders Che Guevara and Fidel Castro, had audiences with Nikita Khrushchev and Chairman Mao, and held talks with President Harry S Truman in the White House.

In his private life, he continued to shock the church.

Mr Butler said: "His first marriage, to Mary, lasted 29 years but they had no children when she died in 1931."

"In 1938, when he was 64, he shocked the cathedral community by marrying a woman half his age, Nowell; the Church of England was not used to such situations."

"Two years later, he had his first child, a daughter, and then two years after that, when he was 68, a second daughter."

"He was an old man in his late 60s and he had quite a momentous private life too."

Rev Johnson died in 1966. All the royalties from the book will go to the Canterbury Gift charity, which raises funds for the repair and the conservation of Canterbury Cathedral.

■ All the news and sport at www.yourcanterbury.co.uk.

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Presentations will be given on all types of arthritic problems and symptoms of the hand and wrist. There will also be an opportunity to talk individually to our specialists if you wish.

Date: Thursday, 22nd September 2011

Time: 7.30pm for 8.00pm

Place: The Donnington Manor Hotel, Dunton Green, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 2TD

This **FREE** event offers you the chance to listen and to evaluate your options and to ask questions in a relaxed, informal environment.

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The Horder Centre, St John's Road, Crowborough, East Sussex TN6 1XP
www.hordercentre.co.uk



Experienced team aims to take manor to a new level

EASTWELL Manor Country House, near Ashford, has a new team heading its restaurant. Between them they have more than 60 years' experience in the restaurant industry.

Kent-born Carl Smith is the new executive head chef, having previously spent three years at the Langdon Court Hotel in Devon. Prior to that, he spent two years as the senior sous-chef at The Hand Picked, Brands Hatch Place Hotel.

He said: "Eastwell Manor is steeped in history. It is amazing to be able to cook in this environment for customers in such a beautiful restaurant and to be able to achieve high standards."

Smith plans a makeover for the wedding, breakfast and private dining menus and has already added new dishes to the à la carte menu, using much fresh local produce and seasonal ingredients.

The new dishes include a starter of seared hand-dived scallops with purées of apple, carrot and potato, served with spinach tuile.

A new main course is made up from a duo of beef cuts. It consists of a fillet of beef and a braised blade of beef, served with root gratin potato, while an addition to the dessert menu is a warm spiced plum soufflé served with plum sauce.

Smith is glad to be able to add his own input but is just as concerned about creating a good atmosphere with his new staff.

He said: "You owe everything to your brigade who work so hard every day in the kitchen."

"They work long hours to achieve high standards, but it's nice being able to play with the menus and redesign them and add my own touch. I'm excited about the challenge of regrouping the chefs within Eastwell's kitchens."

Eastwell is a family-owned Elizabethan-style hotel set within 10 acres of formal gardens at the foot of the North Downs.

It consists of 23 luxury en-suite rooms and suits and 37 additional rooms in a converted stable block of cottages.

With a revamped menu, plus a grand piano, Carl Smith has big plans for Eastwell Manor, as **Ed Hill** discovers



STATELY: Carl Smith and his team at Eastwell Manor have radically changed some of the menus at the family-owned hotel and restaurant

Guests can choose between two restaurants (the Manor and Pavilion) and their bars, while the hotel also has a spa, leisure facilities and a nine-hole golf course.

Joining Smith is new restaurant manager Janus Olason, originally from Iceland. He has almost 30 years' experience in the restaurant industry and has worked in the UK, France and Ireland. Before joining Eastwell Manor he was at Gravetye Manor, a five-star hotel near Gravesend.

Assisting Olason is Romanian-born Ari Nauni, who previously worked as head waiter

at the four-star Pine Trees Hotel in Scotland.

A grand piano has been installed at the restaurant. It is played daily at lunch and dinner by the hotel's resident pianist to help create a sophisticated atmosphere for diners.

So with all these elegant surroundings, what does Smith think makes a good chef?

"Dedication, passion and a ruddy good sense of humour, plus the ability to always adapt and learn within the industry," he said.

■ To discover more about Eastwell Manor and its varied menus, you can visit www.eastwellmanor.co.uk.

Farmers' markets

Dartford

THE farmers' market is held in the pedestrian area of Dartford high street and open to the public between 10am and 2pm on the third Friday of the month. Produce available includes meat, bread, plants and preserves.

Mersham

A MARKET is now held at the Farriers Arms, Mersham Forstal, between 2.30pm and 6.30pm on every second and fourth Friday of the month, featuring top-quality produce. It is a newcomer to the increasing number of markets but is proving very popular.

Horsmonden

HORSMONDEN farmers' market, held every other Friday, has some 20 stalls, covering a range of produce including meat, game, poultry, eggs, cheese, fruit and vegetables, bread, jams and pickles, honey, prepared pies, pastries, cakes and bakes.

Bridge

THE market at the Red Lion Inn, Bridge, on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month aims to give shoppers the opportunity to buy high-quality, nutritious, fresh local food and drink which contributes to their well-being and protects their environment.

Hythe

HYTHE farmers' market was established in March 2004 and is now located in the Methodist church hall, between Chapel Street and Prospect Road. It is open on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month from 10am to midday.

Elham

THE Elham market is held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month in The Rose And Crown pub, from 10am to midday. It offers a selection of fruit and vegetables, eggs, cheese, fresh meat, bread, cakes, honey, jams and wine.

■ For more farmers' markets, visit www.farmersmarkets.org.uk

Regular summer haunt proves a surprise catch of the day

UNTIL now The Ship Inn on Sandgate seafront had been my watering hole... nothing more, nothing less.

It was somewhere pleasant to go for a glass of wine when the sun appeared and the thought of sitting in one of Folkestone's dingy pubs didn't appeal.

It hadn't escaped my notice, however, that with the new roof terrace built last year came a smart, airy-looking restaurant just beneath, quite literally a stone's throw from the beach, so I decided it was about time I put my summer local to the food test.

Unbeknown to me, the night I decided to go coincided with the Sandgate Sea Festival, meaning that when I arrived I was told there was a special seafood menu. Not a problem, I thought, until I remembered my fish-wary guest, who up until perhaps two years ago had boycotted anything even slightly fishy,

RESTAURANT Review



declaring: "I don't trust anything that comes out of the sea".

For a second I thought we would have to leave before ordering, but looking closer at the menu I realised there was real variety – from the fishy, untrustworthy sort my guest was so

wary of to the safer tiger prawn/mussels/battered-fish option.

After the initial panic, we ordered a bottle of Pinot Grigio (£12.50) and settled down for the evening. The restaurant was clean and airy with understated décor and huge windows overlooking the sea – quite different from the pub at the front of the building, which is small and traditional. Making the mistake of arriving at the restaurant famished, I chose the 1kg pot of mussels in a white wine and vegetable sauce (£12.95), over the more manageable small option.

My guest went for the tagliatelle with mussels, tiger prawns, scallops and langoustines in a smoked-salmon sauce (£12.95) and when it arrived at the table I must admit to getting slight food envy – the plate piled high with seafood, the chef had not scrimped.

I have to admit the 1kg decision did floor me slightly as I struggled to finish the juicy mussels, but as someone who doesn't like to be beaten, especially when it comes to food, I powered through, even finding room to mop up the tasty sauce with crusty bread.

Despite being stuffed, we both went for the desert menu: me, crème brûlée (£4.95), and my guest, a white chocolate cheesecake with raspberries (£4.95).

The Ship Inn is still the place for a swift half on a summer's day, but this restaurant must not be overlooked.

With tasty food and fantastic views, this is definitely worth a visit.

Marijke Cox

**■ The Ship Inn
65 Sandgate High Street,
Sandgate, Folkestone CT20 3AH
Telephone: 01303 248525**

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Warner Drinks Inclusive Christmas Party

For over 40s only

Norton Grange Resort,
Isle of Wight - Self drive

3 nights, semi-all-inclusive

Quote NX11-KOS

Was £209

Now £199pp

November 25 to 28, 2011

Come and join our exclusive, annual Christmas party - for over 40s only - at Warner Norton Grange resort on Yarmouth seafront, Isle of Wight.

With a friendly, cosy atmosphere this popular Warner resort serves up a host of festive season treats and free drinks at a great value for money price.

INCLUDED:

- Free return Car Ferry - worth £40
- Free drinks from 3.30pm to 11pm Friday, 12 noon to 11pm Saturday & Sunday - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft



Free Car Ferry
to Isle of Wight

drinks & mixers

- Bed, breakfast & 3 course evening meals
- Mulled wine & mince pie on arrival
- 'Christmas' dinner & visit from Santa
- 'New Year's Eve' dinner & countdown party
- Cabaret entertainment & disco every night
- En-suite chalet - upgrades available
- Leisure facilities: Indoor pool & sauna



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Bosworth Hall Hotel,
near Leicester - Self Drive

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January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2012

Extend the New Year celebrations at our popular, annual party weekends at super Bosworth Hall hotel situated in landscaped grounds in the village of Market Bosworth near Leicester. Enjoy entertainment and 99p drinks both nights.

INCLUDED:

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- Entertainment
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In England - Self Drive

2 to 4 nights

Quote XNY-KOS

From £145pp

December, 2011

Enjoy a great value festive season break at one of these super hotels with quality breakfasts, dinners and entertainment included. The Christmas breaks also include Christmas day lunch and the New

Year break includes a dinner dance to welcome in 2012.

Christmas

4 nights - Dec 23 to 27:

4* Mercure Dolphin Hotel,
Southampton - £279

4* Crowne Plaza, Marlow, Bucks -
£319

4* Marriott, Preston, Lancashire -
£329

4* Ettington Chase, Stratford upon
Avon - £335

New Year

2 nights - Dec 31 to Jan 2:

4* Brook Honiley Court, Warwick -
£145

INCLUDED:

- Entertainment
- En-suite bedroom
- Meals as stated

Warner Drinks Inclusive Carry on New Year Party

For over 40s only

Bembridge Coast Hotel,
Isle of Wight - Self Drive

3 nights, semi-all-inclusive

Quote BC1-KOS

Was £239

Now £229pp

January 13 to 16, 2012

Extend your New Year celebrations on our exclusive party - for over 40s only - at Warner Bembridge Coast Hotel, Isle of Wight.

This luxurious Warner resort features a super restaurant with a la carte, carvery and self service options every night, quality bedrooms with upgrade options and fantastic entertainment. Add free drinks and you are assured a great value for money break.

INCLUDED:

- Free return Car Ferry - worth £40
- Free drinks from 3.30pm to 11pm



Free Car Ferry
to Isle of Wight

Friday, 12 noon to 11pm Saturday & Sunday - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers

- Bed, breakfast & 3 course evening meals
- 'New Year's Eve' dinner & countdown party
- Cabaret entertainment & disco every night
- Daytime activities & entertainment
- En-suite bedroom - upgrades available
- Leisure facilities: Indoor pool & sauna



FOOD & DRINK

Alfresco: Six of the Best



Elvey Farm Pluckley

Why here...

Jazz Sundays at Elvey Farm take place on the second Sunday of every month throughout the summer. With lovely country views, there's a great chance to enjoy a Sunday lunch outside.

On the menu...

While outside, enjoy sipping a chilled glass of Kentish sparkling wine or beer and relax to the gentle sounds of the jazz music, all with spectacular views across rolling fields.

How to book...

Elvey Farm, Elvey Lane, Pluckley TN27 0SU
phone: 01233 840442
www.elveyfarm.co.uk

Air we go for that outdoor indulgence

THERE is always something very sophisticated, very charming and very satisfying about dining outdoors.

Maybe it is because the fresh air and smells allow our taste buds to explore the meal further, maybe it is because eating outdoors takes us back to a previous holiday abroad, or maybe it is because you can finally relax and say the warm weather has arrived.

Europeans really know how to do it, filling the pavements and terraces with diners enjoying both the weather and ambience without being stuck behind some glass.

Here in Kent we are really getting to grips with the alfresco phenomenon.

Our cities continue to demonstrate the growing trends of eating out on the

sidewalk, with more and more restaurants attempting the outside-eatery stylings.

But it is often our country pubs and seaside restaurants that show the sophisticated way forward of alfresco.

Tasting minted lamb while looking out over the rolling North Downs or sampling oysters as waves crash on our pebbled shores just feet away from your table simply cannot be beaten.

Eating alfresco can be both the start and the end of a perfect day in Kent. Rambling through woodland or walking the dogs on the beach can really build up a sweat and an appetite.

So dining outdoors and supping that first refreshing ale can be the perfect way to relax and cool off. Many of Kent's eateries offer the terrace as a choice of dining area, but here are six of the best.



Woods Tunbridge Wells

Why here...

Occupying a unique setting on the beautiful, historic Pantiles in Tunbridge Wells, Woods is ideal for alfresco breakfast, lunch, tea or dinner. Tapas and platter menus are also available.

On the menu...

Regional and seasonal menus, using locally-sourced ingredients – all freshly prepared. All-day brunch, light meals and salads with mouthwatering desserts to finish.

How to book...

62 and 64 The Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells TN25 5TN
phone: 01892 614411
www.woodsrestaurant.co.uk



The Waterfront Dover Marina

Why here...

The Best Western Dover Marina Hotel and Spa offers a choice of dining options from light snacks in the Waterfront café and terrace, bar snacks in the Waterfront bar and terrace, or fine dining in the alcove in the Waterfront restaurant.

The hotel is open seven days a week for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

With its warm, friendly ambience and seafront views,

it makes an ideal dining venue.

On the menu...

In the café, bar and restaurant, you can choose from light snacks to gourmet dishes. A table d'hôte menu is available offering a choice for each course. Ask about the two-for-one offer on breakfast, lunch, dinner and afternoon tea.

How to book...

The Waterfront Restaurant Best Western Dover Marina Hotel and Spa, Waterloo Crescent, Dover CT17 9BP
phone: 01304 203633
email: reservations@dovertwaterfront.co.uk

The Swan Westgate

Why here...

Something to suit everybody, from super food to a great range of drinks to a friendly and relaxed atmosphere with excellent staff. Bar food is available daily except for the Sunday carvery.

On the menu...

Appetisers including moules marinière, homemade salmon fishcake, deep-fried whitebait, spaghetti Bolognaise, fish platter and Spanish paella accompanied by wine.

How to book...

The Swan, 75 Sea Road, Westgate-on-Sea CT8 8QG
phone: 01843 831401
www.theswanatwestgate.co.uk



London Beach Tenterden

Why here...

The London Beach Hotel offers alfresco dining on its magnificent terrace.

Tucked away in beautiful Wealden countryside, you can dine alongside some of the most spectacular views in Kent and indeed even farther afield. Whatever the time of day, you will not be disappointed as the standard of food and the ambience remains top-class, with something to suit every

palate and taste when it comes to both food and drink.

On the menu...

Ravioli of prawns and smoked salmon with shellfish bisque are starters, while mains include chargrilled 28-days matured steak. Many other dishes are available for both lunch and dinner. There is also a very extensive dessert range available.

How to book...

London Beach Country Hotel, Ashford Road, Tenterden TN30 6HX
phone: 01580 766279
enquiries@londonbeach.com



Mulberry Tree Boughton Monchelsea

Why here...

Travel down narrow sandy lanes into the heart of The Weald to find this country restaurant, which enjoys two AA rosettes. A sunny terrace and garden offers alfresco dining with a view.

On the menu...

An award-winning member of Produced in Kent, the restaurant champions local products and sources from local suppliers within the Weald of Kent for its modern British and European cuisine.

How to book...

Hermitage Lane, Boughton Monchelsea ME17 4DA
phone: 01622 749082
www.themulberrytreetkent.co.uk

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Harry Judd (McFly)
Vernon Kay
Stephen Mulhern
Nicky Southall
John Virgo
Bradley Walsh

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For more information visit

www.daveleehappyholidays.org.uk

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September 30th - October 2nd 2011

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- Food & drink tastings
- Local restaurant trail - festival menus throughout the week



Keep up to date with the latest festival news by visiting www.broadstairsfoodfestival.org.uk



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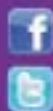
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WALK

South Foreland

Visit www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent

Take in the stunning sea views across the Channel on this trek past farmland and through chalk grassland in White Cliffs country at Langdon, near Dover

THE South Foreland chalk headland presents a bold white face to the sea and commands views over the Strait of Dover, the busiest shipping lane in the world. Enjoy the panoramic views across the water towards France as you follow this cliff-top walk high above the Port of Dover to South Foreland lighthouse.

The walk takes you past farmland and through chalk grassland. The area supports a special range of flowers and insects, such as the chalkhill blue butterfly and its favourite food, the horseshoe vetch.

We set out, with the sea on our right, from the entrance of the Gateway to the White Cliffs Visitor Centre, where you can also pick up an activity pack or enjoy the café. Follow the waymarked route past Langdon Hole and Fan Point towards South Foreland.

Ponies are used at Langdon Cliffs to crop the grass and prevent scrub invading; in other places the scrub is left to provide shelter for small birds. Larger birds such as peregrine falcons can be seen all year round, while kittiwakes breed on the cliffs in summer.

Be prepared for the long flight of steps down as you approach Langdon Hole and paths that are steep in places. You need to take special care when it is wet.

After walking around Langdon Hole, don't miss the view from Fan Point of the bay below. Ahead, set high on the headland is South Foreland lighthouse.

The spectacular whiteness of the cliffs symbolises the freedom of this independent nation. It is the battering of the sea that keeps the chalk pristine by washing away vegetation. However, the cliffs and their proximity to the Goodwin Sands mean danger for mariners.

South Foreland lighthouse was built in 1843. Its job was to help ships navigate between the English Channel towards the Thames or the North Sea ports.

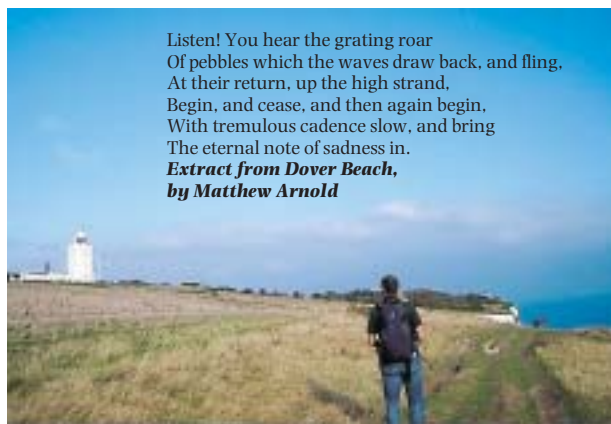
Additional claims to fame are that it was the first light to be powered by electricity; the scene of Marconi's first ship-to-shore broadcast in 1898; and then the venue for the first international radio transmission (to Wimereux, near Boulogne) a year later.

The lighthouse is maintained by the National Trust and you can visit it from April to October. There is a small admission charge.

As you look out to sea from the South Foreland, you are at the closest point to Europe on the British mainland; France is only 21 miles (34km) away.

Either retrace your steps to the visitor centre or follow a surfaced path just inland, this time keeping the sea on your left.

- **Location:** Langdon Cliffs, Dover CT16 1HJ
- **Distance:** Four miles (6.4km); allow 1.5 hours
- **OS Explorer map:** 138
- **Terrain:** Coastal path through farmland and chalk grassland. Generally flat with some steep inclines and one flight of steps.
- **Stiles:** 0
- **Gates:** 3
- **Steps:** One flight of 23 steps
- **Step count:** Approx 8,000
- **Parking:** The White Cliffs Visitor Centre
- **Refreshments and facilities:** Coffee shop and toilets in the visitor centre
- **Useful contacts:**
Gateway to the White Cliffs Visitor Centre
CT16 1HJ (phone 01304 202756)
South Foreland lighthouse (phone 01304 852463; or visit the National Trust website www.nationaltrust.org.uk)



Listen! You hear the grating roar
Of pebbles which the waves draw back, and fling.
At their return, up the high strand,
Begin, and cease, and then again begin,
With tremulous cadence slow, and bring
The eternal note of sadness in.
Extract from Dover Beach,
by Matthew Arnold

LANDMARK: South Foreland Lighthouse, above and left

Explore Kent

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(Mon-Fri 8am-8pm).

KENT ATTRACTIONS

To be included on this page, please email features@kosmedia.co.uk

New arrival Teeny gorilla joins the gang

**Howletts wild animal park,
near Canterbury**
www.aspinallfoundation.org
01227 721286

KEEPERS have announced the birth of another western lowland gorilla at Howletts wild animal park. The little one, weighing two kilograms, is the 131st gorilla to be born through the Aspinall Foundation in Kent. Mother Tamba gave birth to her fifth baby at Howletts, delivering a new member to the group headed by silverback father Kouillou. Animal director Neil Spooner said: "Tamba and Kouillou are excellent parents. Tamba will hold her baby until it is about two months old, after which it will be able to ride on her back clinging to her fur. "The baby will be dependent on Tamba for three or four years as it learns from her and the family how to find food, socialise and raise young."



Jazz tribute Brubeck night at RAFA club

Dock Road, Chatham
Friday, September 16
Tickets £10
01634 365352

THE RAF Association Club in Chatham is holding a jazz tribute gig to icon Dave Brubeck and his quartet. The group were famous throughout the 50s and 60s for playing unusual time signatures and more complex rhythms. Their recording of Take Five entered the charts of the time and is still heard today in TV commercials and dramas. Brubeck is still playing today at the age of 90 and shows no signs of slowing. Performing on stage will be Simon Bates, a professor of saxophone for the Royal Marines who is in demand on the London session scene. He has appeared and recorded with many bands and musicians including Elvis Costello and Rick Wakeman.

Rare opening Fruit garden visitors day

**Bradbourne House and
Gardens, East Malling**
Sunday, September 18
www.bradbornhouse.org

THERE is a rare chance for visitors to explore Bradbourne House and Gardens. Set in 20 acres of parkland, the renowned Haddon Fruit Garden will be opening to the public in support of the National

Gardens Scheme. Visitors will be able to explore the impressive Queen Anne Grade I-listed house with Tudor origins and its fine interiors and portraits. The park and gardens, featuring a picturesque lake and stream, includes the famous Haddon Fruit Garden inspired by the Louis XIV kitchen gardens at Versailles. Experts will be on hand to talk about the garden's 25 fruit-tree-training techniques, the widest range in the country. The fruit garden features numerous varieties of apple, pear, medlar, nectarine, peach

and fig trained into attractive shapes to produce as much fruit as possible in limited space without overcrowding. There will also be a wealth of entertainment, including apiary tours and candle-rolling with Mid Kent Beekeepers, scientific demonstrations, medieval musical instruments, a string quartet, a children's quiz, plant and produce stalls and refreshments. Admission to the 2011 open day at Bradbourne House and Gardens, from 2pm to 5pm on Sunday, September 18, costs just £3.50. There is no charge for under-16s.



Youth in art Gallery hosts new exhibits

**Turner Contemporary,
Margate**
September 17-January 8
www.turnercontemporary.org

TURNER Contemporary is presenting a new exhibition called Nothing In The World But Youth. It brings together 200 works by 94 artists exploring how adolescent experience has been reflected in art and culture from the late 19th century to the present day. The exhibition reflects and examines the complex picture of teenage lives and the differing views society has of its young people through a selection of works, objects and memorabilia. These include works by internationally- and nationally-acclaimed artists, writers, musicians and designers including Henry Moore, Peter Blake, Sarah Lucas, Andy Warhol, Mark Leckey, Jim Lambie and David Hockney. Director Victoria Pomery, said: "This is an exciting and vibrant exhibition containing a diverse range of work from JMW Turner to Jeff Wall. "Although it focuses on what it is to be young, the theme is universal and the content will have resonances for both young and old."



Man of magic Starring with Penn & Teller

**Woodville Halls Theatre,
Gravesend**
Thursday, September 29
www.gravesham.gov.uk

KENT magican Richard Bellars has been called up to star with American illusionist heavyweights Penn & Teller. The 30-year-old Fool Us star, pictured above, third left, is giving a show at the Woodville Halls Theatre before heading to America. The additional show has

been shoehorned in to the theatre's schedule, giving Kent audiences the chance to see Bellars's winning magic act before he goes to support the world-renowned illusionists in their Las Vegas stage show. Bellars, from Tunbridge Wells, secured the slot after appearing on ITV's Fool Us last month, performing a trick that he calls Confab SHOE Lation. The show was hosted by Jonathan Ross and attracted an audience of 4.5 million as well as the contract at Las Vegas's plush Hotel Rio. Tickets for this one-off event cost between £12 and £13.50. To book your tickets, either phone 01474 337774 or visit www.gravesham.gov.uk.

Chas Cole for CIMP Entertainment presents

Bill Wyman's Rhythm Kings

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DICKENS WORLD EVENTS



Fidelio Opera

Ludwig Van Beethoven

Friday 14th October

Adult Only Ticket £25.00
with a 3-course supper £39.50

Time for Tea

A new 'Good Old Days' live show

Afternoon cream tea, scones, lashings of laughs and songs of yesteryear to sing along to.

Show only is included in the Dickens World standard admission price.

*£5 extra for cream tea, scones & cucumber sandwiches
Next Show Wednesday 26th October at 2pm



BRITANNIA THEATRE EVENTS



Maritime Jazz Festival

Three days of Jazz between 22nd and 24th September

Adult Thurs Night - £11 • Adult Fri Night - £14

Adult Sat Night - £14 • Adult 3 day Festival Ticket - £27

Jongleurs Comedy Night

Friday 30th Sept & Friday 4th Nov

Doors open at 7.20pm • Comedians start 8.30pm
DJ til late, food available • Tickets from £10.80



Roy Walker

Saturday 26th November
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Christmas Events

Christmas Launch

Arrival of Father Christmas
Saturday 12th November, Free event

Christmas Jongleurs Special

Fri 2nd Dec. Best comedians in the land!
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Christmas Parties

Dates throughout December, from £39.50

Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs

Dates throughout December, Adult £12.50 & Child £9.50



Apollo 18 (15)
Colombiana (15)
Friends with benefits (15)
Fright night 3D (15)
Harry potter and the deathly hallows (12a)
I don't know how she does it (tbc)

Jane Eyre (pg)
Mr poppins penguins (pg)
One day (12a) Digital
Rise of the planet of the apes (12a)
Spy kids: all the time in the world 3D (pg)
The inbetweeners (15)
The smurf's (u)

The smurf's 3D (u)
Final destination 5 3D (15)
ODEON KIDS
Hop (u)
SENIOR SCREEN
Pirates of the Caribbean: on stranger tides (12a)
NEWBIES
Jayne Eyre (pg)
Julia's eye's (15)

For times and films, please call the film line on 0871 22 44 007 or visit www.odeon.co.uk

For all Dickens World information and online bookings, go to www.dickensworld.co.uk or call 01634 890421



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EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

To be included on this page, please email features@kosmedia.co.uk

Woolly world Titch loves to take it easy

**Kent Life,
Sandling, Maidstone**
www.kentlife.org.uk
01622 763936

TITCH is one of the smallest sheep at the Kent Life attraction near Maidstone. The tiny animal has hardly grown since he was born, but that does not stop him grabbing the best seat at the park's new play beach. He can often be found sitting in one of the deckchairs to unwind, much to the displeasure of his woolly friends who are too large to do the same. Emily Hiron, Kent Life general manager, said: "He's had his eye on the play beach since work started on it. He loves to sleep and relax, and the deckchair has become one of his favourite places to unwind. He's known for his mischievous and friendly nature, which makes him a firm favourite."



Charity walk North Downs run or ramble

Wye Downs
Sunday, September 18
01303 815634
www.thecaldecottfoundation.co.uk

KENT children's charity the Caldecott Foundation is appealing for walkers and runners to take part in the big Rotary Ramble to raise money for the centenary appeal. Based at Smeeth, near Ashford, the charity provides residential care for children aged five to 16 in warm and welcoming homes, with primary and secondary education in the charity's school.

The scenic route is around Wye and heads along the North Downs Way. Walkers will enjoy stunning views across Kent's most beautiful countryside. There is a choice of a five- or 10-mile walk, or a five-mile run. Sam Scott, head of fund-raising at The Caldecott Foundation, said: "This year is our centenary year and we are aiming to raise £750,000 for a vocational training unit to help the older children in our care learn vocational skills. "We need the support of sponsorship and donations to help us achieve our goal and are grateful to anyone who walks in aid of us." Entry fees are £10 for over-18s and £5 for under-18s; the start is between 8.30am and 10am. Download entry forms at www.thecaldecottfoundation.co.uk/RotaryRamble.

Drumming Playing it out of their skins

**Assembly Hall Theatre,
Tunbridge Wells**
Sunday, September 18
01892 530613

THE Mugenkyo Taiko Drummers will be in Tunbridge Wells later this month. With a full set of powerful taiko rhythms, huge drums, dramatic choreography,

haunting bamboo flute and playful percussion, it makes a theatrical stage show. Mugenkyo Taiko Drummers have been the driving force behind the growing taiko movement in the UK since their establishment in 1994. The group have spearheaded the development of taiko as a European art form through high-profile performances, television appearances and extensive touring. Taiko means 'great drum' or 'wide drum' in Japanese. The drums go back to 500BC and they also held a strong foundation in the court-

style music called gagaku, performed in the castles and shrines across ancient Japan. Gagaku is one of the oldest styles of court music still being played in the world today. The drums were also used in warfare to motivate soldiers and set a marching pace. However, the art of synchronised drumming is relatively new. Through years of rigorous touring as Europe's leading taiko group, Mugenkyo have developed a gritty, passionate style. Tickets are priced at £18, concessions £15 and family of four £60. Visit www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk.



Garden tips Learn from the experts

**Godinton House,
near Ashford**
September to October
01233 643854

GODINTON House and Gardens is running a series of workshops for gardeners in September and October. The classes will be taken by Godinton head gardener Viv Hunt and Fiona Abrahams from Hadlow College. The first workshop, on Saturday, September 17, will cover autumn propagation with practical sessions showing how to expand your stock. The next sessions will cover the kitchen garden on Saturday, October 1, with advice on how to grow your own fruit and vegetables, while a focus on autumn tasks on Saturday, October 22, will give advice about preparing your garden for the winter. Godinton has 12 acres of gardens, including terraced lawns bordered by its famous yew hedge and box hedges. All workshops run from 9.30am-12.30pm, with refreshments provided. The course fee is £45 and booking is essential. Visit www.godinton-house-gardens.co.uk or phone Rachael on 01233 643854.



HOMES

Feel the heat in the kitchen with one of these superb range cookers

A beautiful range cooker can be the centre of the kitchen at the heart of your home – full of warmth, your way of cooking delicious food, a centrepiece that can even provide hot water and central heating.

Heat Design know that the world of range cookers can be a bewildering one, with just so much choice available. Located in Canterbury, Heat Design's friendly, knowledgeable staff are ready to guide you to the right range cooker for your home.

The most well-known range cooker is the iconic AGA. This classic design has just had a 21st century overhaul in the new AGA Total Control. The Total Control is soon to become internet connected, with an iPhone app that allows you to turn the oven on on your way home or set a timer from your sofa. The AGA cooker's sister product, the Rayburn, allows you to integrate the range cooker into a hot water system and heat your home as well as cook. Many other models offer this option and our in house heating engineer can guide you through installation into existing systems.

For the keen home chef, the Falcon range is worth a look. Falcon combine classic style and solid engineering in a product which serious cooks will love. Their induction-topped range in particular offers incredible precision and safety.

However, if it is design boldness you are after, you can't go wrong with Mercury. Their contemporary designs are perfect for the stylish modern kitchen. Even more so, Steel Cuisine offer a cool, polished alternative to the more well known brands. Imported direct from Italy, Steel Cuisine cookers are sleek cookers in stunning chrome, with sharp, crisp lines and dramatic angles.

The Heat Design showroom in Roper Close, Canterbury, lets you see precisely how the cookers look and even work. As an independent company, Heat Design's customer support is second to none.

Right now in store it's £500 off any Rayburn Heat Ranger and a free canopy hood half-price with Mercury and Falcon cookers. Why not pop down or give them a call?

**Heat Design, Roper Close,
Canterbury, CT2 7EP
Telephone: 01227 457643
<http://heatdesignkent.co.uk>
hello@heatdesignkent.co.uk**



■ Mercury in Blueberry



■ ESSE Ironheart



■ Rangemaster Elan 90



■ ESSE Cat

Range cookers

To be included on this page, please email features@kosmedia.co.uk



■ Rayburn 600



■ Falcon 1000



■ AGA Total Control



■ Steel Cuisine Genesi



■ Rangemaster Professional+ 90



■ Rangemaster Elise 110

Get the best out of your range cooker with this delicious recipe for a butternut squash risotto

THE strength of the stock is the key to making a good risotto. Enhancing a bought stock, as below, adds more depth of flavour. I've suggested carnaroli rice, but you can also use Arborio or Vialone nano rice – all will satisfy risotto lovers.



Picture: WARREN LATTON

- Preparation time:**
15 minutes to 20 minutes
- Cooking time:**
40 minutes to 45 minutes
- Total time:**
55 minutes to 65 minutes
- Serves:**
Two

Ingredients:
For the risotto
50g butter
100g Carnaroli / Arborio Risotto Rice
¼ pack fresh flat leaf parsley, finely chopped
25g Parmigiano-Reggiano, grated, plus extra shavings to serve

For the stock
1 litre vegetable stock
2 cloves garlic
2 tbsp white wine
1 tsp tomato purée
½ small butternut squash, about 250g-300g, peeled

- Method**
1. For the stock, place the vegetable stock in a large pan with the garlic, white wine and tomato purée. Bring it to the boil, then simmer for 5-10 minutes.
 2. Meanwhile, cut the squash into 1cm dice, then add to the stock. Continue to simmer the stock for about 10 minutes until the squash is just tender. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the squash to a plate and set aside. Then remove and discard the garlic cloves.
 3. To make the risotto, melt half the butter in a heavy-based pan, add the rice and stir it well with a wooden spoon on a low heat for 1 minute. Gradually ladle in the hot stock a little at a time, stirring constantly and ensuring that each addition has been fully absorbed by the rice before adding another ladleful.
 4. When the rice is just tender, about 15-20 minutes, stir in the cooked squash. Keep adding the remaining stock for about five minutes, or until the rice is creamy and the stock is absorbed. Stir in the chopped parsley, Parmigiano-Reggiano and the rest of the butter. Season and serve topped with cheese shavings.

HOMES



QUESTION TIME:

Some of the designers with celebrity TV gardener Joe Swift and Louise Tomlin of Jacksons at the show gardens opening in May 2011. From left, Mark Smith, Matthew Childs, Mary Ann Le May, Helen Elks-Smith, Joe Swift and Louise Tomlin; sitting on the ground front right is Justine Jobson

Jacksons Fencing is to host a special 'meet the designers and countryside' event, where the winners of its show-garden competition will be on hand to help answer all your questions

A COUPLE of weeks ago, this section featured Jacksons show gardens and told you about some of the exciting products showcased in the gardens.

This week we are focusing on the upcoming 'meet the designers and countryside' event being held next weekend.

As some of you will be aware, the gardens are the result of a national competition aimed at professional garden-designers and run by Kent company Jacksons Fencing.

The company challenged designers to create original gardens that are environmentally-friendly and sustainable, using Jacksons and other top-quality garden-company products.

The winning designs have been built at the company's headquarters at Stowting.

The show-gardens project is now into its second year, and with seven stunning gardens that wouldn't look out of place at the country's big garden shows, it has proved highly popular with visitors throughout the year.

Next Saturday (September 17) will see a special event with all seven winning garden designers attending; they will be on hand to chat to visitors about any garden queries they might have.

And what a magnificent line-up the seven designers are: they include multiple RHS medal-winners and a couple of Kent-based designers, all with a combined wealth of experience on which to draw.

The first year's four winning designers were Matthew Childs (The Centered Garden), Philippa O'Brien (Jacksons Goes To The Seaside), Mark Smith (The Haven) and one designer who is sure to be in demand... Heather Appleton (The Float Garden). Heather scooped a coveted gold medal from the Royal Horticultural Society at this year's Hampton Court show.

Heather won gold for her Kipling Garden, one of the poet-themed gardens at Hampton Court, following silver-medal success at the Chelsea Flower Show.

This year's competition winners are Justine Jobson (The Fragrant Front Garden), Helen Elks-Smith (The Chill Out Garden) and Mary Ann Le May (The Paradise Garden).

There is also an exclusive opportunity to win a bespoke garden design by one of the designers and up to £500 of Jacksons products to help you create the garden of your dreams – fill in an entry form on the day.

Also at the event will be a Talk To The Experts forum, where Jacksons advisers will be on hand to discuss any fencing projects you have, as well as exhibitors representing many other garden-related fields, including landscaping, oak buildings, water features, teepees, wildlife conservation, beekeeping, rose-growing and bonsai displays, as well as cheesemakers, winemakers and much more.

Most of these companies will have their products for sale. Stands and stalls will be under cover as far as possible, so don't let bad weather deter you.

Jacksons will also be hosting a Behind The

Scenes tour on which you can enjoy a unique view into how Jacksons premium-quality products, such as panels, entrance and courtyard gates, are made by the company's craftsmen.

And finally, Jacksons will be holding a charity bring-and-buy plant sale, for which you bring along any plants you can spare from your own garden and donate them to the stall (labelled if possible).

You then browse what's on offer and buy new plants at a nominal price, with all proceeds going to charity.

And you certainly won't go hungry or thirsty, with the wide range of delicious, mouthwatering, locally-produced products on sale during the day, not to mention the fantastic lunches from the specially-prepared country hoedown menu from a local pub.

For more information, a brochure on the Jacksons range and to find out how to get to the event, go to jacksons-fencing.co.uk/showgardens or phone 01233 750393.

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HOMES

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Brewery town is an increasingly popular location

THE attractive town of Faversham is one place in Kent where property has continued to hold its value far better than in other similar areas.

New developments, particularly alongside the creek, have made it an increasingly popular place to live, while improved rail links have added to its desirability among commuters.

A number of new restaurants and stores have added to the attraction of the town, which is well known for its maritime links and as the home of Britain's oldest brewer, Shepherd Neame.

The annual hop festival and a vintage car show are other reasons the town is proving so popular.

It is also a well-regarded place when it comes to shopping, with a popular market in the town centre and a large number of distinctive stores with individual appeal, as well as the usual chains.

The average price for a detached property in the town stands at £367,711 – above average for Kent.

Semi-detached homes are priced at around £213,000, with those in a terrace at £192,000 and flats costing around £129,000.

At the moment there are more than 200 homes on the market in the town and they are available for an average length of time of 169 days before a sale is completed.

At the high end of the market there are currently seven homes priced between £500,000 and £1,000,000.

The highest number of property types on the market, 78, relates to two-bedroom homes, while there are five fewer three-bedroom houses.

An average of seven new properties comes on to the market each week in the town.

When it comes to renting, prices are around £1,000 a month for a three-bedroom house, with flats costing some £750-£800.

Properties in the tiny, picturesque hamlet of Thowley rarely become available, and a home on the market for £750,000 has been owned by

the current occupiers for more than 30 years. It provides spacious accommodation with five bedrooms and a large open-plan living area. The property was created from the conversion of the barn section of an oast house and an attached cottage. It boasts many character and period features, including a wealth of exposed timbers and exposed brick and flint walls.

The property sits on the edge of farmland in a plot of about 1.75 acres with delightful views. Bells Forstal is within the parish of Thowley, which lies on top of the North Downs in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

It is believed to date from 1909 and has many stunning original Edwardian features, including unique fireplaces, panelling and superb stained-glass leaded-light windows. The five bedrooms comprise four large doubles and a good-sized single.

The accommodation downstairs includes a delightfully-proportioned drawing room as well as three further receptions. The entrance hall and landing are both highly noteworthy, with large stained-glass windows making them very light and airy. The property sits in a large plot with a driveway and double garage to one side. The gardens are beautifully presented and maintained.

Little Lodge, in Doddington, is on the market for £485,000 and is believed to date from around 1820, when it was the gatehouse to Sharsted Court.

It was extended in 1903 and also has a more recent addition; each of these have kept to the character of the original, with arched windows, vaulted ceilings with skylights, fireplaces and wooden floors. The accommodation includes three bedrooms and two reception rooms.

There is a log-burning stove in the sitting room. The gardens are a lovely feature of the property; here the owners have created several individually-styled outdoor rooms to take full advantage of the sun at various times of the day. There are useful outbuildings, including two stables and a three-bay garage/workshop.

PROPERTY SPOTLIGHT ON FAVERSHAM



APPEALING: Faversham, with its mixture of cobbled streets and modern developments at the creek, above right, plus pretty surrounding villages, make it an attractive proposition for buyers



PERFECT OAST: This property in the pretty village of Thowley is on the market for £750,000

PRETTY OLD GATEHOUSE:

Little Lodge in Doddington is believed to date from around 1820 and is on the market at £485,000



PLENTY OF CHOICE: Semi-detached properties on the market in Faversham are priced from about £213,000

AUCTION

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Commencing 19th-23rd September



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DEAL
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Guide: £120-125,000



FOLKESTONE
Freehold Commercial/Residential Investment Let £14,640 p.a.
Guide: £115-125,000



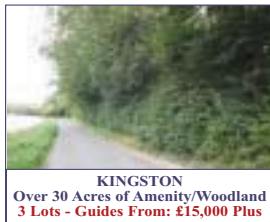
ASHFORD
Three Bed House for Improvement
Guide: £80-85,000



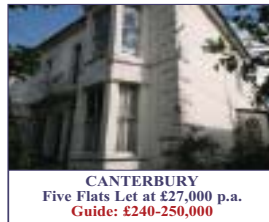
DYMCHURCH
Former Church Hall with Potential
Guide: £30-35,000



LAMBERHURST
Barn with Planning for Conversion
Guide: £180-200,000



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Guide: £80-85,000



MARGATE
Freehold Block of Nine Flats
Guide: £400-420,000



HASTINGLEIGH
Det Cottage in over Seven Acres
Guide: £400-420,000



HASTINGLEIGH
Almost Four Acres of Land
Guide: £26-30,000



MARGATE
4 Properties for Refurb/Redevelopment
Guide: £400-410,000



STURRY
3Acre Site - Long Road Frontage
Guide: £200-210,000



WHITSTABLE
Freehold Mast Investment. Let £5,000 p.a.
Guide: £35-40,000



MARGATE
Mid Terrace & Cottage for Refurbishment
Guide: £70-80,000



WESTGATE-ON-SEA
Residential/Commercial Investment
Guide: £230-250,000



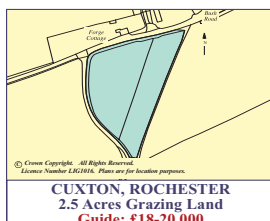
HYTHE
Cottage in Superb Location - Planning for Extension
Guide: £200-220,000



MARGATE
Three Bedroom House for Updating
Guide: £100-110,000



RAMSGATE
4 Bedroom House in Superb Location
Guide: £240-250,000



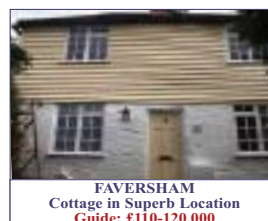
CUXTON, ROCHESTER
2.5 Acres Grazing Land
Guide: £18-20,000



DOVER
Detached House on Large Plot
Guide: £175-185,000



MARGATE
Commercial with Planning for 6 Flats and 2 Commercial Units
Guide: £220-240,000



FAVERSHAM
Cottage in Superb Location
Guide: £110-120,000



TEMPLE EWELL
Development Site
Guide: £190-210,000



RAMSGATE
Vacant Cottage for Improvement
Guide: £70-80,000



ALDINGTON
Barn with Planning for Conversion
Guide: £180-200,000



ELHAM
Former Hotel/Restaurant in Good Location
Guide: £360-380,000



MARGATE
Public House with Office Space
Guide: £110-120,000



MARGATE
House for Updating
Guide: £90-95,000

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Commencing 19th-23rd September



ROCHESTER
House for Improvement
Guide: £75-85,000



GILLINGHAM
House for Refurbishment
Guide: £65-70,000



DARTFORD
Land with Planning
Guide: £25-35,000



CHATHAM
Builder's Store
Guide: £3-5,000



HADLOW
Six Bedroom Detached Property
Guide: £380-400,000



LINTON
Grazing Land
Guide: £15-20,000



ORPINGTON
Commercial Premises with Potential
Guide: £115-125,000



SITTINGBOURNE
Three Bed Semi for Improvement
Guide: £160-170,000



CHATHAM
Commercial with Planning
Guide: £85-95,000



MAIDSTONE
Town Centre Commercial Premises
Guide: £170-180,000



CHATHAM
Town Centre Offices with Potential
Guide: £220-225,000



CHATHAM
Town Centre
Office Building
Guide: £85-95,000



GILLINGHAM
House for Improvement
Guide: £85-90,000



SOUTHBOROUGH
Commercial/Residential Investment
Guides: £180-185,000



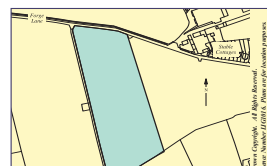
TONBRIDGE
Semi-Detached House for Repair
Guide: £360-370,000



ORPINGTON
3 Bedroom House for Improvement
Guide: £120-125,000



CHATHAM
Protected Residential Investment
Guide: £80-85,000



EAST FARLEIGH
9.5 Acres of Orchard Land
Guide: £58-62,000



OLDHAM, PADDOCK WOOD
14 Acres of Paddock
Guide: £55-75,000



WEST KINGSDOWN
Large Rural Semi for Refurbishment
Guide: £175-185,000



RAINHAM
Bungalow for Improvement
Guide: £120-130,000



THURNHAM, MAIDSTONE
Det Cottage with 0.8 Acres
Guide: £180-190,000



LORDSWOOD, CHATHAM
Bungalow with 1.3 Acres
Guide: £220-230,000



CAPEL, TONBRIDGE
38 Acres of Land with Former Scrapyard and Paddock (5 Lots)
Total Guide: £300-325,000



GREENHITHE
Site of Former Health Clinic
Guide: £80-100,000



CHATHAM
House for Improvement
Guide: £60-65,000



SPELDHURST, TUNBRIDGE WELLS
Barn with 14.8 Acres
Guide: £170-175,000



SUTTON VALENCE
Commercial Site with range of Industrial Units - for Investment/Occupation
Guide: £320-330,000

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Maidstone Borough Council is due to publish its draft Core Strategy for public consultation in September setting out how many houses will be built in the period up to 2026, with a detailed, site specific allocation coming out after the Core Strategy has been approved. Like many local authorities, Maidstone is looking to provide less housing than required in the Borough.

In the South East Plan, its figure for the period 2006-2026 is 11,080 dwellings which has been now been reduced by 1,000 units. It has identified the main areas of new development as north west and south east Maidstone, as well as five key villages, namely

Harrietsham, Lenham, Headcorn, Staplehurst and Marden. If landowners are looking to achieve development elsewhere, they will need to submit objections justifying why this should happen. Similarly, those with interests in the five key villages will need to support the strategy of development there.

This is a major opportunity for landowners and developers to promote their interests. Chapel Place Limited would be pleased to undertake the planning work on your behalf and would be pleased to discuss this in greater detail accordingly.



Peacehaven, East Sussex £1.1 million

Site measuring approximately ¾ acres on the South Coast Road with direct sea views available subject to planning



Rye, East Sussex £150,000

Detached 2 bedroom Victorian house with large garden situated in the sought after town of Rye in need of total renovation



Tenterden, Kent £350,000-£450,000

A pair of cottages for refurbishment retaining many original features with potential plot to the side, subject to planning



Albourne, West Sussex £400,000

An exceptional building plot with planning permission for an eco friendly house of approximately 2,500 sq ft



Tenterden, Kent Offers Invited

Site measuring approximately 1 acre in Ox Lane available for sale on a subject to planning basis

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FAVERSHAM £205,000

A charming 3 bedroom grade II listed character cottage set in this sought after location in a conservation area abounding in local history; just a short walk from the town centre and within easy reach of the mainline station.



EASTLING £235,000

An impressive development comprising a row of just 4 country cottages each extended and refurbished to a high standard and now presented as new. The 2 remaining mid-terrace cottages are arranged over 3 floors with 3 beds (1 en suite) with magnificent rural views.



FAVERSHAM £320,000

A superbly extended and presented family home within easy reach of the town centre and station. Offering 4 good size bedrooms, 3 receptions and a lovely kitchen/breakfast room. Also with garage, driveway and a good size westerly facing rear garden.



FAVERSHAM £425,000

A superb 5 bedroom semi-detached Victorian town house dating from around 1860 and retaining many character and period features. Superbly located close to the heart of Faversham, within easy reach of local amenities and the mainline station.



FAVERSHAM £525,000

A substantial 4 bedroom 1930's family home in a prestigious location within easy reach of the town and mainline station. Includes a through the floor lift if required. Detached garage, delightful rear garden and open views over school playing fields to the front.



NEWNHAM £725,000

A 4 bedroom and 4 reception cottage situated in a delightful elevated position on the edge of Newnham village with stunning views over the village and valley beyond. It is full of charm and character and has an amazingly beautiful garden set in an area of outstanding natural beauty.

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View the price packages page on the A-Class website **www.a-class.co.uk** for more information about deals, pricing and discounts.

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AMANDA cuddly 39yr old easygoing caring lonely female just looking for love with nice guy, 30-55yrs. Nothing ventured, nothing gained. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375133 ☺

SASHA 28yr old beautiful surfer babe looking for fun initially, maybe more with fit confident male who can handle me. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375131 ☺

SOCIALBE cuddly 70's lady, GSOH, N/S, likes cinema, days out, coast, seeks genuine male for friendship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369297

I'M Gorgeous, lively seeking a similar professional who thinks he can handle me, good times guaranteed. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369223

STUNNING blonde nurse, 32, funny and romantic, WLTW uncomplicated, reliable male, 50-65yrs for companionship and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369221

JACQUELINE 48, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks male, 40-58 for friendship, maybe more. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370747 ☺

ACTIVE slim female 30yrs, easy-going, honest with GSOH and a passion for life looking for genuine man to fall for. 28-50yrs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 37009

TANYA 35, Canterbury, brown hair/eyes, no ties, likes nights in/out, cuddles, TLC, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387220 ☺

SUE 54, tactile, loving, fun, seeks genuine, loving guy to share good times. Thanet. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373321 ☺

VALERIE fun loving, late 60's, wid. owl, slim, blonde, N/S, GSOH, likes walks, meals out, looking for similar male for relationship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371205

ANITA 58, 5ft 3ins, auburn hair, green eyes, likes swimming, bowling, shows, holidays, walks, seeks male. Sittingbourne. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387416

JO bubbly, fun, red hair, green eyes, 5ft 5ins, likes nights out, dvds, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374337 ☺

LOVELY tall slim nurse, very caring and fun but missing that va-voo! Seeks adventurous male who's up to fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374159 ☺

FULL time vacancy arisen for open minded male seeking uncomplicated relationship with slim professional at 39yr old female with wicked sense of humour. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374157 ☺

LIFE begins at 40! Pam outgoing athletic brunette, tall, slender and attractive, WLTW older male with big personality for lots of fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374155 ☺

SUSAN 38, affectionate outgoing medium built brunette, seeking tall male with GSOH for cosy evenings in with a good wine. Status/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374135 ☺

ANITA 58, green eyes, auburn hair, 5ft 3ins, likes shopping, holidays, cinema, shows, seeks male. Sittingbourne. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374745

ANNA 5ft 4ins, 63, N/S, seeks N/S, genuine man for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374589 ☺

JULIE pretty 38yr old Irish female who is lonely as new to the area, looking for male up to 65yrs for tactile companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374705

JEANETTE big brown eyed busty fit size 10 with lots of interest, searching for a sincere man to share love and life with. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374703

JENNY very young shy black female looking for reliable, genuine nice older man to help me become an attentive lover, 40-70yrs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374701, ☺

HELLO I'm Jane, attractive, genuine, caring, intelligent, romantic and single at 38yrs, what are you waiting for? Call me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374677

BEVERLEY 33, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeks male, 40-45 for walks, karaoke and meals out. Thanet. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375217 ☺

ELIZABETH independent, no ties, solvent, fit and healthy, looking for similar passionate male, any age/looks for companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375161

SANDRA green eyed slim brunette, loves to keep fit, very competitive, seeks reliable mature male who can look after me and be loved in return. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375159 ☺

LIDDY 28yr old genuine kind hearted guy looking for older male, 34-46yrs who can replace the other half of me that's missing. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375157 ☺

ALICIA attractive petite female 22yrs, new to dating scene and area, loves nights in/out, WLTW male for adult fun. ACA, can accommodate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375135 ☺

ELIZABETH caring, honest, reliable, likes most things, seeks older gent, late 70's for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359589

FOLKESTONE lady, 57, 5ft 11ins, hazel eyes, medium build, likes walks, good food, seeks caring, affectionate male, large build to share life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371399 ☺

LISA N/S, easygoing, friendly, bubbly, petite, likes swimming, football, walking, holidays, pubs, seeks male to share interests with. Eltham. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372595 ☺

KATHY attractive single mum 25, slim, dark hair/eyes, fed up with being alone, looking older male for mutual TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372661

EM attractive lady, mild mannered, nice nature, looking for happy times and loving future with appreciative man. Call me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372659

ACTIVE solvent female with GSOH looking to start life again but this time be a lot more adventurous, care to join me? Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370181

CONFIDENT fun female bored of spending time alone, looking for fun man to share lots of laughs and good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370177

AFRICAN female, likes cooking, travel seeks male for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386712

ATTRACTIVE petite oriental female with no ties WLTW nice respectable man for a loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371577

CONFIDENT and cultured lady, young 39, very attractive, slim and fit seeks mature male, 45-65yrs for wining, dining and more. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371575

36YR old professional, blue eyes, blonde, smiley, OHAC WLTW special guy for nights in with lots of cuddles and love. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371549

BARBARA 46, seeks nice, stocky male up to 50 for friendship, maybe more. Heathrow. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361701 ☺

Hi I'm Louise, an easygoing sensual slim blonde looking for someone to have fun with initially maybe more later. Call me. Any age/status. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373009 ☺

CAROLINE size 16, seeks kind, honest, loving gent, 45+ plus for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371099 ☺

PAULINE 38, teacher, easygoing, friendly, likes films, walks, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387358 ☺

ANITA 58, auburn hair, green eyes, 5ft 3ins, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374009

PAM nice lady, looking for special male who is genuine with GSOH to share life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387332 ☺

CLAUDIA curvy size 20, Mediterranean, blonde hair, brown eyes, seeks mature male, 40-55 for friendship, companionship and enjoy life together. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373611 ☺

ELIZABETH caring, honest, reliable, likes most things, seeks older gent, late 70's for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359589

FIT female 39, enjoys good conversation, laughs and walking bare foot in the grass, WLTW similar male for tactile friendship/more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372663

LONELY Folkestone lady, 57, 5ft 11ins, medium build, N/S, seeks caring, considerate male for walks by the sea and pubs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371067 ☺

CARING female, 64, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 4ins, medium build, seeks male, 60-70 for friendship, maybe more. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369593 ☺

SUSIE 5ft 7ins, blonde, seeks educated attractive male for loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385476 ☺

34YR old blonde new to the area, seeking younger guy for fun times maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365079

FUN loving curly red head 32yrs, loves good food/wine, WLTW male who appreciates a real woman and knows what he likes. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365077

ACADEMIC man sought by female, recent graduate, into art, history, psychology, likes usual activities as well as London art galleries and walks. Brimley. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365501

ATTRACTIVE confident, lady, 37, independent, HIV Positive, seeks male for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363415 ☺

LADY 56, semi disabled, size 18, seeking a caring, loving, honest gent, 50 plus. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365453

LYNNE slim, scatty blonde, mid 50's, looking for some fun and company. Margate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386428 ☺

CLAIRE Gorgeous fun loving brunette, 29, 5ft 4ins, employed, OHAC, looking for manly male up to 45yrs for no strings good times and fine wine. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373107 ☺

26YR old Indian princess looking for discreet older N/S professional male to make life a bit more interesting and share mutual companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373089 ☺

SHEILA caring 64, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 4ins, medium build, seeks male, 60-70 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373555 ☺

CAROLINE 31, Attractive, slim but curvy brunette, witty and fun, seeking relaxed, male for fun times together. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373007 ☺

JACKIE 48, 5ft 3ins, medium build, likes animals, nights in/out, walks, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more, preferably a smoker. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368039 ☺

ATTRACTIVE mature, outgoing Caribbean female, seeks interesting companion for socialising, good conversation and glass of wine. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367799 ☺

YOUNG 60 something female looking for friendship only with likeminded ladies for meals out, nights out and holidays. Feltham. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367625

ATTRACTIVE slim 52yr old female, seeks N/S companion, 52-60 to share countryside, walking, swimming, days out, holidays etc. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369179

JACKIE petite, attractive, brown hair/eyes, many interests, OHAC, looking for sincere male who also likes good food and wine. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370123

WARM well educated 60's female, seeks similar gent to enjoy the simple things of life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360479

ATTRACTIVE and any man's dream seeks, outgoing, professional male for evenings in and fun nights out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366703

CUTE very curvy young girl, 18, WLTW romantic guy for lots of fun and loving. Looks/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366699

MAIDSTONE lady, pretty, petite, late 50's, honest, caring, N/S, loves life and most things, seeks nice guy for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366501 ☺

48YR old female, 5ft 3ins, medium build, likes animals, nights in/out, holidays, coast, seeks male, 48-50, preferably a smoker for LTR. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365955

DEBS petite brunette, 38yrs, well travelled, loves food and good wine, WLTW affectionate male for nice times. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372219

FUN female 35yrs looking to let her hair down seeks easygoing N/S guy for a relationship, 30-65. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368001

34YR old single mum of 2, size 16, caring, cuddly, seeks genuine, loving male with GSOH. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386268 ☺

FED up with lonely nights in! 33yr old brunette with green eyes WLTW someone 35-50yrs for TLC maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368913

BEAUTIFUL blue eyed blonde, 26, slim, looking for evenings out with male. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368911

22YR old leggy blonde, seeking likeminded man for lots of fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368909

SLIM attractive, elegant female, likes travel, restaurants, cinema, seeks caring, male, 45-55 for friendship, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361571

PAT 70's, 5ft, cuddly, seeks male for friendship and days out. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369521 ☺

JACKIE 48, 5ft 3ins, medium build, likes animals, nights in/out, walks, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more, preferably a smoker. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368039 ☺

ATTRACTIVE mature, outgoing Caribbean female, seeks interesting companion for socialising, good conversation and glass of wine. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367799 ☺

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JACKIE petite, attractive, brown hair/eyes, many interests, OHAC, looking for sincere male who also likes good food and wine. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370123

WARM well educated 60's female, seeks similar gent to enjoy the simple things of life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360479

ATTRACTIVE and any man's dream seeks, outgoing, professional male for evenings in and fun nights out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366703

CUTE very curvy young girl, 18, WLTW romantic guy for lots of fun and loving. Looks/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366699

MAIDSTONE lady, pretty, petite, late 50's, honest, caring, N/S, loves life and most things, seeks nice guy for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366501 ☺

48YR old female, 5ft 3ins, medium build, likes animals, nights in/out, holidays, coast, seeks male, 48-50, preferably a smoker for LTR. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365955

DEBS petite brunette, 38yrs, well travelled, loves food and good wine, WLTW affectionate male for nice times. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372219

YOUNG looking petite female prepared to try anything once, looking for similar open-minded tactile guy for fun loving times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372217 ☺

BRIGHT bubbly chatty brunette with lots to offer to the right person looking for new love who will appreciate a real woman. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371579

NAUGHTY but nice female, tall, blonde, blue eyes, seeks elderly male, 75-85 for friendship and good fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372311

BUBBLY reliable woman, lots to give, 5ft 6ins, seeks tall professional male with lots of TLC for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372003

30'S female, easy-going, laidback, animal friendly, looking for that special person to share things with, any age/looks. Hope you call. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372233 ☺

DONNA 47, bubbly, caring, loving, seeks genuine, loving guy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370863 ☺

VERY good looking Turkish female looking to meet male 29-45 for fun friendship. Looks/race/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370183

ATTRACTIVE N/S 52yr old female, likes walks, countryside, pubs, companionship for meals out, holidays and sunshine, any buttons pressed in East Kent area, please call. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370091

LADY 50, single, enjoys nights in/out, cinema, travel, country walks, seeks sincere, genuine male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387851 ☺

TALL slim auburn haired sincere female, 37, looking for genuine fun relationship with open-minded male, 40-65yrs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372055 ☺

BEAUTIFUL size 10 figured female, brown hair, big brown eyes 41yrs looking for relaxed relationship with man, 20-38yrs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370091

LADY 50, single, enjoys nights in/out, cinema, travel, country walks, seeks sincere, genuine male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370863 ☺

VERY good looking Turkish female looking to meet male 29-45 for fun friendship. Looks/race/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370183

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VERY good looking Turkish female looking to meet male



First **GEAR** **MOTORING NEWS**

- Chevy marks 100th birthday with new deals
- Reborn Mini going strong after 10 years
- Nissan rolls out its new, improved Qashqai



Motorline
to continue
rapid rise
with new
Hyundai i40

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*Not available on Expression, ES, ES Tech models. Model shown is New Astra SRi 5dr. Finance provided by Vauxhall Finance, a trading style of GMAC UK plc. PO Box 6666, Cardiff. CF15 7YT. Finance is subject to status, terms and conditions. Applicants must be 18 years or over. Offer applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only excluding B2B). All other customers are excluded. Offer available on orders or registrations before 30 September 2011. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. Calls may be recorded for training purposes only.

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DS4 ticking all the boxes

By Sam Davison

editorial@archant.co.uk

CITROËN'S mould-breaking founder would have approved of the DS4 – the French marque's second addition to its premium DS sub-brand.

It's a car that defies categorisation, as so many of André Citroën's innovations did, and attracts attention and interest as a natural consequence. Is it a five-door hatchback, or a coupé? Both, really.

There are four doors but, like several modern pseudo-coupés, the handles for the rear ones are recessed into the door frames to fool the eye into believing that this is actually a sporty coupé rather than a practical family hatchback.

The illusion is aided by a rakish rear window line that draws the eye away from recognising the rear roof is still high enough to ensure that the back of the DS4 can be crammed with stuff when required.

Just as you think you have the car pigeonholed, you recognise how high it rides. So, is it a crossover coupé, then? Possibly.

Then there's the premium interior to consider, so maybe it's an executive hatchback?

In short, the DS4 is a compelling conundrum and suggests Citroën has come up with a rather neat solution to the perennial problem of creating sporting and upmarket versions of mainstream models; rather than bolt on lots of goodies to a car which also appears on the road in bog-standard format, why not create a separate entity?

So, what we have here is a revised version of the mainstream Citroën C4 – not a bad car in itself and a good donor for the more upmarket and distinctively different DS4.

With prices from £18,150, Citroën offers a choice of three petrol and two diesel engines and three trim levels, and includes an ultra-green Airdream diesel (£22,145) emitting 114

CITROËN DS4 THP 200 DSPORT: PRICE £23,650

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Canterbury 01227 828999

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LOOKING GOOD:

Part of the DS4's appeal is the attention to detail with an interior that would put more expensive executive marques to shame and it is this that dealers think is attracting many Citroën customers to trade up

g/km of CO₂ and qualifying for road tax of just £30 a year.

We opted for the other extreme, courtesy of Wilmoths group's Ashford showrooms, and drove the 200bhp turbocharged 1.6-litre petrol DSport flagship (£23,650).

If you like your cars with attitude, then this is for you, with beefy and cool-looking 19-inch alloys to complement the rakish style of the DS4 body. This version also comes with a suspension pack that sharpens handling to go with the extra power of the turbo engine, without giving a bone-jarring ride.

The car feels agile and responsive on normal roads and has a pleasing exhaust note when pushed, yet it's extremely quiet and refined on the motorway.

But you will already have a feel-good factor from the premium interior; the leather seats on the test car would put many an executive marque to shame for comfort and finish, but the same overall design is deployed on lesser

versions, too. The dashboard is also top-notch with quality materials and controls and lots of stowage space. It shows the measures mainstream manufacturers are using to pressurise so-called upmarket brands, and it is clearly tempting many customers to trade up, according to James Tomlin, sales manager at Wilmoths Citroën, Ashford.

He said: "We've had quite a few of our previous C4 customers trade up to the DS4 when they have seen the premium feel and generous standard equipment – apart from the car's stunning looks."

As you might expect from a car with coupé pretensions, DS4 rear legroom is not the greatest and, possibly unique in the market at present, the rear windows don't open, although I suppose this function is rarely used nowadays in an era of air-con and climate control.

However, the boot is spacious for such a sporty-looking car and adds to the feeling that the DS4 is hard to categorise.

First **GEAR****MOTORING NEWS****Great deals for 100th birthday**

CHEVROLET is marking its centenary with celebrations across September plus compelling deals, including the smart new Cruze Hatchback, pictured, from £12,995.

There is also a £6,995 offer on the well-equipped 1.0+ Spark city car and Chevy's standard five-year warranty. There are deals, too, on Orlando MPVs and Captiva SUVs.

**Reborn Mini is still a favourite**

MINI is also celebrating... 10 years since the brand was reborn, and the arrival of the 61 registration plate.

Its appeal continues to be 'go-kart' handling and design, but customers also like its eco-technology, exemplified by the sporty yet frugal Cooper SD diesel, with CO₂ emissions as low as 114g/km and an average mpg in the mid-60s.

**Qashqai just got even better**

NISSAN'S groundbreaking Qashqai crossover now aims to stand out from the crowd again with an advanced new 1.6-litre diesel option for the standard car as well as the seven-seat Qashqai+2 range.

The new low-emission unit qualifies for £30-a-year road tax yet is livelier, more efficient and more refined than the 2.0-litre unit it replaces.



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To book a test drive contact
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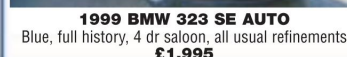
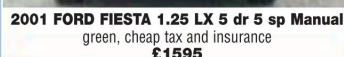
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Motorline in gear with Hyundai

MOTORLINE – the fast-growing Kent-based motor group – has now become a major player in the county for the equally ambitious Hyundai brand.

Within a matter of weeks, two new franchises have been set up at Park Wood, Maidstone, and at Canterbury's 'motor city' in the Vauxhall Industrial Estate/Broad Oak Road area.

And the brand manager for both sites, Rob Ledwith – formerly general manager with Motorline Renault – said the openings could not be better timed.

"We launched the all-new Hyundai i40 [family model] this week. It's a tremendous car, with fantastic quality at a great price and again shows how far and fast Hyundai is moving," he said.

"As ever, it comes with the brand's standard five-year/unlimited mileage warranty – not that the cars ever really need it, as proved by so many customer-satisfaction awards. We are also offering some launch deals on other models that are even lower than the normal keen Hyundai prices such as the i10 [city car] from £6,895, and the i20 [supermini] from £7,995 – both cars are among Hyundai's best-sellers, along with the hugely successful ix35 (SUV/crossover) and ix20 (supermini/MPV).

"We also have the largest selection of used Hyundais in Kent and already have Motability fully operational."

Rob Ledwith's two site managers are also



DRIVING FORWARD: Brand manager Rob Ledwith with the new Hyundai i40, launched first in Tourer or estate, which is expected to sell better than the forthcoming saloon version

experienced players from the local dealer scene: Rob Hobbs, formerly in charge at Motorline Toyota in Canterbury, and Nick Axford, formerly of Lipscomb Volvo, Canterbury, but with brand experience at Porsche and Renault, among others.

The two sites have both been heavily refurbished for an undisclosed sum: the

eight-car Park Wood showroom is a former Mercedes-Benz dealership, which has moved next door, while the 10-car Canterbury showroom in Westminster Road is Motorline's former Renault dealership – that has moved to what was the official Mercedes-Benz dealership in Broad Oak Road.



i20 Blue now Korean marque's most economical city car ever

HYUNDAI has added a second ultra-eco model to its range, following the success of the i10 Blue city car.

This time it's the i20 Blue and, with CO₂ emissions of just 98g/km, it becomes the cleanest model in the Hyundai range while also qualifying for road tax and congestion-charge exemption like the i10 version.

Priced at £13,195, it is based on the current i20 Comfort trim level mated to the 1.4 CRDi 90 PS (89bhp) engine – the standard version costs £12,245.

The extra £950 delivers Hyundai Blue Drive

technologies including: Intelligent Stop & Go (ISG), low rolling resistance tyres and aerodynamic tweaks, allowing a 12 per cent reduction in CO₂ emissions and an official 76.4mpg on the combined cycle.

The latter figure equates to a £63 fuel fill-up allowing a range of 755 miles.

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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data – Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): New Astra SRi hatchback: Urban: 28.5 (9.9) – 60.1 (4.7), Extra-urban: 49.6 (5.7) – 80.7 (3.5), Combined: 39.2 (7.2) – 72.4 (3.9). CO₂ emissions 169 – 104g/km.

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Representative Example

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Customer deposit	£179	Opt Final Payment (inc opt fee £395)	£4098
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J G Burgess and Company

Upton Lane, Sittingbourne ME10 1JB. Tel 01795 423815

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Price related to illustrated model: Punto MyLife 1.2 8v in Airborne effect. Taxes and conditions apply. Rental customers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offer. With Fiat+Drive you have the option to return the vehicle and not pay the final payment, subject to the vehicle being in good condition and not having exceeded an agreed annual mileage. In charge of the car for exceeding the 10000 miles in this example. Offer subject to status. A guarantee or indemnity may be required. Fiat Financial Services, PO Box 108, Luton LU2 9BU. Offer may be subject to credit checks. Subject to availability. Offer valid for registration up to 30th Sept 2011. J G Burgess and Company work with a number of lenders to provide finance to customers including F&A Capital.













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Vehicles shown feature metallic paint at an extra cost Spark £375, Captiva £410. Offer available on vehicles registered between 1st July and 30th September 2011. Available at participating Dealers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Available on UK supplied vehicles. 5 year warranty up to 100,000 miles, expires whichever occurs first. This offer includes Chevrolet's standard Customer Care Commitment of a 2 year unlimited mileage manufacturer's warranty, and third year manufacturer's warranty with a 60,000 mile limitation. Years 4 and 5 are an insurance-backed warranty up to a maximum of 100,000 miles. The warranty excludes wear and tear and serviceable items and the vehicle has to be serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's servicing schedule. 5 year warranty is available on retail registrations only. Models shown in the thumbnails are not all UK specification and therefore not currently available in the UK. Vehicles currently available in the UK are Spark, Cruze, Orlando and Captiva. For more information visit www.chevrolet.co.uk. Prices correct at time of press. Calls may be recorded and monitored for training purposes.

Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Spark 1.0 + 5dr: Urban - 42.8 (6.6), Extra Urban - 67.3 (4.2), Combined - 55.4 (5.1). CO₂ emissions 119g/km. Captiva 2.2 VDI LT: Urban - 33.2 (8.5), Extra Urban - 51.3 (5.5), Combined - 42.8 (6.6). CO₂ emissions 174g/km.



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Models shown: Hyundai i10 Classic 1.2 at £6,895 OTR including a £1,300 customer saving. Hyundai i20 Classic 1.2 3 dr at £7,995 OTR including a £1,750 customer saving. Hyundai i30 Classic 1.4 hatchback at £8,995 OTR including a £4,585 customer saving. Prices shown include customer saving discounts where applicable against manufacturer's recommended OTR price at the time of publication and include VAT, delivery, vehicle first registration fee, number plates and 12 months' road fund licence. 3 years or 30,000 miles free servicing, whichever occurs sooner is available to private retail customers only on all Hyundai i20 models registered between 1st July and 30th September 2011. Servicing can be carried out by any Hyundai dealer in accordance with the Manufacturer's servicing schedule for the specific vehicle. All offers and savings are only available to private retail customers on new cars purchased and registered in the UK (excluding Channel Islands or Isle of Man), between 1st July and 30th September 2011, sourced through Hyundai Motor UK Ltd or its authorised dealers. Offers are subject to availability, may be varied or withdrawn at any time and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers with the exception of the Hyundai i20 3 years* free servicing offer. Warranty terms and exclusions apply. See www.hyundai.co.uk/owners/5YearWarranty or ask your local dealer.

Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 25.9 (10.9) - 61.4 (4.6), Extra Urban 39.8 (7.1) - 74.3 (3.8), Combined 33.2 (8.5) - 67.3 (4.2) CO2 Emissions 225 - 99 g/km

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2011(11)	VAUXHALL ASTRA SRI 5DR HATCH AUTO, SOVEREIGN SILVER, 1700 miles.....	£14,995
2011(11)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO SE DSG 5DR HATCH AUTO, SHADOW BLUE, 2000 miles.....	£12,995
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2011(11)	NISSAN NOTE N-TEC MPV AUTO, RED, 2000 miles	£11,995
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2009(09)	FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 8000 miles.....	£9,995
2008(08)	FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles	£8,995
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2009(59)	RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE DCI FAP TURBO MPV AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles	£14,995
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2009(59)	RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE COUPE AUTO, RUBY RED, 8000 miles	£11,995
2010(59)	RENAULT SCENIC EXPRESSION VVT MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles	£11,995
2011(11)	RENAULT GRAND MODUS DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, RUBY RED, 1700 miles	£10,995
2008(08)	RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 15000 miles	£9,995
2008(08)	RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles	£9,995
2008(08)	RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 MPV AUTO, GREEN, 15000 miles	£7,995
2008(08)	RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1500 miles.....	£6,995
2008(57)	RENAULT MODUS DYNAMIQUE S VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles	£6,495
2008(08)	RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5DR HATCH AUTO, EXTREME BLUE, 10000 miles	£5,995
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2008(08)	CHEVROLET KALOS SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, SPORTS BLUE, 10000 miles.....	£5,495
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2006(56)	CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles	£3,995

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2011(11)	HYUNDAI I20 COMFORT 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 100 miles	£10,995
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2007(07)	HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, SEASIDE BLUE, 19000 miles	£5,495
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2008(57)	HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, BLUE, 27000 miles	£4,995
2005(55)	HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, CLEAN SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£4,995
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2008(08)	DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles	£6,995
2007(57)	DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles	£6,495
2007(07)	DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles	£5,995

BMW

2009(59)	BMW 3 SERIES 320I SE COUPE AUTO, BRONZE, 4000 miles.....	£19,995
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FUSION

2010(60)	FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 3000 miles	£10,995
2010(10)	FORD FUSION ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1800 miles	£9,995
2009(09)	FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles	£7,495
2008(08)	FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles	£6,995
2009(09)	FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles	£6,995
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2008(58)	CITROEN C3 EXCLUSIVE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles.....	£7,995
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2008(58)	VAUXHALL CORSA SXI AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 miles	£7,995
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2008(08)	VAUXHALL CORSA SXI AC 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 miles	£6,995
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2008(08)	VAUXHALL CORSA SXI AC 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 miles.....	£6,995
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2007(57)	VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, STAR SILVER, 13000 miles	£5,995

MAZDA

2010(10)	MAZDA 5 5 TAKARA MPV AUTO, SILVER, 5000 miles	£14,995
2009(59)	MAZDA 5 5 TS2 MPV AUTO, GALAXY GREY, 12000 miles.....	£12,995
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2008(58)	MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 5000 miles.....	£9,995
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2009(59)	SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles.....	£8,995
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2010(60)	TOYOTA IQ VVT-I IQ 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 900 miles	£9,495
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2010(10)	TOYOTA AYGO BLUE VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, CARIBBEAN BLUE, 6000 miles	£7,995
2008(08)	TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles.....	£7,495
2005(05)	TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, CYRSTAL SILVER, 7000 miles	£6,995
2004(04)	TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 35000 miles	£5,495

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2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI ASENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAYMAN BLUE, 10000 miles.....	£12,995
2010(60)	NISSAN CUBE KAIZEN 5DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 3000 miles.....	£11,995
2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAYMAN BLUE, 14000 miles.....	£11,995
2011(11)	NISSAN NOTE N-TEC MPV AUTO, RED, 2000 miles.....	£11,995
2011(60)	NISSAN NOTE N-TEC MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 3000 miles.....	£11,495
2010(59)	NISSAN NOTE N-TEC MPV AUTO, BLADE SILVER, 18000 miles.....	£9,995
2010(10)	NISSAN MICRA N-TEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles.....	£9,995
2008(08)	NISSAN MICRA ASENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 4000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(08)	NISSAN MICRA TEKNA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, CAFE LATTE, 14000 miles.....	£8,995
2009(59)	NISSAN MICRA ASENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles.....	£8,995
2009(09)	NISSAN MICRA ASENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles.....	£8,495
2009(58)	NISSAN MICRA ASENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 7000 miles.....	£7,995
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2007(57)	NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 6000 miles.....	£6,495
2005(05)	NISSAN PRIMERA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 43000 miles.....	£4,995
2006(06)	NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, PACIFIC BLUE, 21000 miles.....	£4,995
2004(54)	NISSAN ALMERA TINO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles.....	£4,995
2005(05)	NISSAN ALMERA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles.....	£4,995
2005(55)	NISSAN ALMERA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 39000 miles.....	£4,995
2005(54)	NISSAN ALMERA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFE LATTE, 9000 miles.....	£4,995
2005(05)	NISSAN ALMERA S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles.....	£4,995
2005(05)	NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles.....	£4,495

ASTRA HATCHBACKS

2008(58)	VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 15000 miles.....	£9,995
2009(59)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles.....	£9,995
2009(59)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 3DR HATCH AUTO, TECHNICAL GREY, 5000 miles.....	£9,495
2009(09)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 14000 miles.....	£8,995
2010(59)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles.....	£8,995
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2008(08)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles.....	£8,495
2009(59)	VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, GOLD, 3000 miles.....	£8,495
2009(59)	VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, ULTRA BLUE, 5000 miles.....	£8,495
2008(08)	VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 7000 miles.....	£6,995
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MITSUBISHI

2007(57)	MITSUBISHI LANCER ELEGANCE ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 19000 miles.....	£6,995
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SKODA

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2011(11)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 2000 miles.....	£21,995
2010(60)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles.....	£19,995
2010(10)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 10000 miles.....	£18,995
2009(09)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles.....	£16,995
2008(58)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles.....	£15,995
2008(58)	NISSAN QASHQAI ASENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 12000 miles.....	£15,495
2009(09)	NISSAN QASHQAI ASENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 10000 miles.....	£14,995
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2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI ASENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 18000 miles.....	£12,495
2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 21000 miles.....	£11,995
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MINI

2010(60)	MINI COOPER MINI COOPER 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1700 miles.....	£14,995
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VAUXHALL AGILA

2011(60)	VAUXHALL AGILA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 650 miles.....	£10,995
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FIESTA

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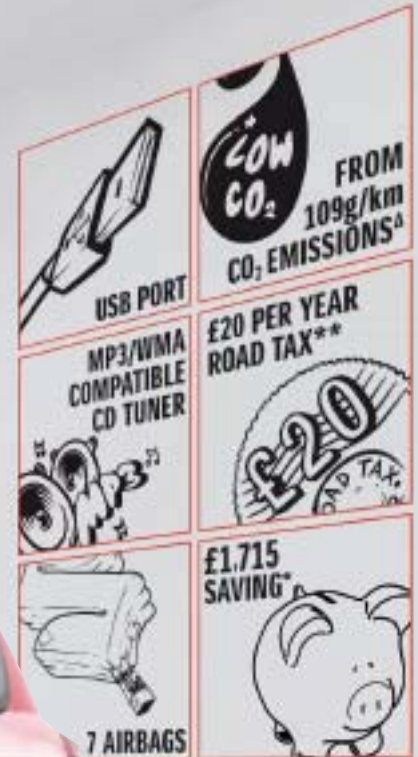
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Model shown is the Swift SZ2 3 door M/T available at £8,495* on the road (metallic paint available at £399). Swift range official fuel consumption figures in mpg (L/100km): urban from 41.5 (6.8) to 55.4 (5.1), extra urban from 57.6 (4.9) to 78.5 (3.6), combined from 50.4 (5.6) to 67.3 (4.2). Official CO₂ emissions from 129g/km to 109g/km.



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Sport

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CYCLING

House ready to take on top names in battle of Britain

By Glenn Pearson

glenn.pearson@archant.co.uk

THE eagerly anticipated Tour of Britain begins this weekend and it promises to be even bigger this year with a host of top names signed up for the week-long race.

Top of the pile is Tour de France green jersey winner Mark Cavendish, while world champion Thor Hushovd, Team Sky's Geraint Thomas and veteran cycling legend Jens Voigt are all sure to draw out the crowds for the race, which starts on Sunday.

Among the 96 riders who will cover 1,235 kilometres over eight days is Kent's Kristian House, riding for successful domestic team Rapha Condor Sharp. An experienced Tour of Britain rider, House plans much of his season around the race as he seeks to win a stage that has so far eluded him. The Canterbury-born rider is likely to see his chances of doing so this year radically reduce, not just because of such a strong peleton that will be dominated by cycling heavyweights HTC Highroad, Team Sky and Garmin Cervelo, but because of his own ambitions for the race.

The 31-year-old is hoping to contend for the General Classification for his team, which means he is targeting the overall winner's jersey – gold in this case rather than the more well known yellow.



RACE: Kent's Kristian House (above) will be taking on the likes of Mark Cavendish (right) in the Tour of Britain

As a result, his rivals will not allow him to 'go up the road' in a break as it would be detrimental to their hopes, but House, who grew up in Texas, has his sights set on a top-10 finish this year.

"It is the most important thing of the year and it's really cool to race on your home tour in front of the crowds, it's something we all look forward to as well," he said.

"My build up to this race has been really good. I won a stage in Spain, the Olympic test event went well and then I went out to France

and finished second there, so things are going pretty well.

"I'm looking for top 10-overall, but at the same time I have got team-mates who are quite up for this as well, but we'll see how the race pans out. I've no problem helping them out. I'd like to go for a stage win but that might not be my choice because if I become the GC guy then I have to put that aside."

House believes Tuesday's 140km stage in Stoke will be where the race splits up and is a stage he will have to be attentive to, particularly

ahead of the category climb up Gun Hill, in order to stay in GC contention.

A highlight of this year's race is the final stage in London, which will see a 10km time trial in the morning precede what's likely to be a bunch sprint in the afternoon.

"It's an amazing race because it's in the centre of London," he said. "We'll be attacking the hell out of it because it's the last stage and you've got nothing to lose."

The Tour of Britain will be screened every day on ITV4.



Pictures: AE PHOTOS

Exclusive Tour blog

■ Our man in the peleton, Kristian House, will be helping us give you a rare insight into each stage of the Tour of Britain. The Rapha Condor Sharp rider has agreed to write an exclusive blog for Archant KOS Media readers which you can see every day on our website, www.kentsport.co.uk. House's first blog includes a look at each stage and his predictions:

- **Peebles-Dumfries:** Bunch sprint.
- **Kendal-Blackpool:** Bunch sprint.
- **Stoke-on-Trent:** Key stage for General Classification riders.
- **Welshpool-Caerphilly:** New stage, chance of a break getting away.
- **Exeter-Exmouth:** Big hills, chance of peleton splitting up.
- **Taunton-Wells:** Expect attacks on climbs
- **Bury St Edmunds-Sandringham:** Newest stage, but bunch sprint.
- **London:** Time trial followed by exciting bunch sprint at Whitehall.

BOXING

Tak's eyes on the big prize after warm-up



AFTER coming through his first fight in more than three years, veteran Margate puncher Takaloo says he can't wait to step into the ring in Thursday's Prizefighter tournament at the famous York Hall in London.

The 35-year-old former WBU title holder outpointed Scunthorpe's Steve Spence in a warm-up bout in Doncaster last Saturday, and is now finalising preparations for his bid to win the Prizefighter trophy and the £32,000 purse.

Takaloo is confident of success and says he feels "no pressure", unlike when he was challenging for titles and fighting the likes of WBO world champion Daniel Santos as far back as 2003.

He said: "Back then every fight had so much riding on it. I mean, winning and losing title fights was the difference between winning to pay my mortgage or losing and going back to eight-round fights where the money's no good, and rebuilding. I'm not complaining, it was my choice, but let's just say I wasn't earning the kind of money Ricky Hatton did when he was a WBU champion."

Ahead of Thursday night's tournament, Takaloo said: "For this I'm



Pictures: ADY KERRY

FIGHTING FIT:

Takaloo is put through his paces on the pads by John O'Neill at the trainer's gym in Margate, as he prepares for his Prizefighter challenge after last week's warm-up victory in Doncaster

under no pressure. No-one expects anything of me so if I lose it's adios and game over, but looking at the guys in it; I'm really confident I can go in there and smash them all up."

The Prizefighter format sees eight boxers' names put into a hat in the main draw, which for the first time in the popular series will be held on the night. The bouts take place over three, three-minute rounds, with the winners of the quarter-finals going through to two semi-final matches. The two winners proceed to the final to determine the overall winner.

Sport

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CYCLING



AT HOME: Jamie Staff is loving life as the United States' sprint director



OLD TIMES: His experience as an Olympic champion is being used well

American dream living up to its billing for Staff

By David Pritchard

david.pritchard@archant.co.uk

AFTER reaching the pinnacle of his sport as a competitor, Jamie Staff has spent the last year using the knowledge gained from a long career in British cycling to reinvent himself as a coach more than 5,000 miles away from where he grew up in Kent.

Part of the team sprint trio which won gold at the Beijing Olympics in 2008, an accolade which crowned a glittering career in track cycling and BMX, Staff stood down last year after struggling to recover from a back injury.

He had little time to contemplate retirement, taking up a job as the sprint director for the United States' track team.

Although it was not a discipline the 38-year-old had considered, the years immersed in Britain's elite training programme have turned the

Ashford-born athlete into a natural coach.

"I really enjoy it, I never thought I'd be a teacher or a coach but I couldn't honestly think of a better job," he said.

"For the most part I'm just so grateful and thankful for the experiences I've had. I learnt a lot myself the hard way over the years of BMX and it was very valuable. Then going through British cycling with the track racing, towards the end everything got pretty intense, but it was extremely educational."

A glance at the medals table shows the USA's reputation for excellence when it comes to Olympic sport, but track cycling is a relatively neglected area. Staff has spent the last year working with about a dozen riders, who are forced to juggle training around work commitments.

He said: "We've got to go to a World Cup with a bunch of guys that work part-time and beat some of these world-class teams. To a lot of peo-

ple that would seem impossible, I know it's not but that's the way we've got to do it. Just to compete with these guys on a regular basis is hard. I don't even ask how most of these guys survive, they're living on a shoestring."

While the hard work is beginning to bear fruit, the heavy workload has consequences elsewhere. Staff was intending to establish an academy at Cyclopark, a major cycling facility at Gravesend, due to be completed next year.

The desire to set up a centre of excellence bearing his name in Kent remains, but for the moment at least the demands of his role in California make it impossible.

"I just can't do [Cyclopark]," he said. "If I want to do something and my name's attached to it I want to do it properly and give it 100 per cent."

Staff returns to the UK in February, when the US team compete in the Track Cycling World Cup at London's Olympic velodrome.

TOURING CARS

WITH TIM HARVEY



Touring car legend Tim Harvey has teamed up with Archant KOS Media this season to bring you a regular column as the class of 2011 do battle up and down the country. Harvey, who was brought up in Sevenoaks and schooled in Tonbridge, more recently raced in the Porsche Carrera Cup for Wrotham team Motorbase Performance. He shares his thoughts, as an ITV commentator, on the British Touring Car Championship, and discusses the series' big issues.

'Perfect weekend for the Hondas'

LAST weekend's trip to Scotland threw up some pretty unpredictable results, as always seems to be the case when the British Touring Car Championship visits Knockhill.

The drivers like to try to get through with the car intact and three finishes under their belts. For Matt Neal and Gordon Shedden, that worked out fine, and for others, including previous championship leader Mat Jackson, it was a complete disaster.

Unfortunately, it was the local Motorbase team which suffered on this occasion.

Neal and Shedden, in the Hondas, will be delighted. They've had some bad weekends where they're thrown points away and if they'd done it again at Knockhill, the clock would have been ticking with only three more race meetings left. They had the perfect weekend and Jackson had a perfectly unlucky weekend, taking only one point for his fastest lap.

For Jackson, he simply has to move onto the next race, but you can't help in motorsport rueing what might have been, the ifs, buts and maybes. He can still win the championship, but it's going to be a lot harder now. Both the Hondas are looking very strong and while you could expect one of them possibly to have bad luck, Jackson needs both of them to have bad luck. He won't give up, though.

I think we are going to see a genuine title fight between team-mates Neal and Shedden. It will probably come down to a little bit of luck, one way or the other.

As we count off the races, one non-finish more than the other can be crucial in terms of point-scoring.

I'd say Shedden was the stronger of the two Hondas at Knockhill. There were a couple of places on the track where he was definitely quicker than Neal, but he did have home track advantage which won't be the case at the next three races.

Jason Plato was again struggling to race against the turbo cars at Knockhill.

They were quicker on the straight and even when he was in the lead, he had to defend massively and that's what caused the incident with Tom Boardman running into him. He can't overtake cars very easily and I do share his frustration. I can't see any way he can win the championship from here because Rockingham and Silverstone are both power circuits.

You never want to predict things this far away from the end of the season, but the two Hondas of Neal and Shedden are very well-placed.

MOTORSPORT

Jackson's title hopes hanging in the balance

Pictures: NICK DUNGAN



BLOW: Mat Jackson lost the series lead

HOPES of winning the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) are slipping away from Airwaves Racing and Mat Jackson after a nightmare weekend at Knockhill.

The 30-year-old held an eight-point lead for the Wrotham team at the top of the drivers' standings before the trip to Scotland, but he failed to finish two of the three races and trails championship leader Gordon Shedden by 23 points.

"I've never known bad luck like this in all my years of racing," Jackson said. "The team put out a fantastic car last weekend; unfortunately we couldn't deliver the race re-

sults the car was capable of."

A puncture meant Jackson finished 17th in race one, before wheel damage in race two and a collision with Tom Chilton in race three cut short the rest of his weekend.

Tony Gilham was absent from the Knockhill grid after a lack of sponsorship ended his stay with 888 Racing. However, the Dartford driver will be back when the series resumes at Rockingham on September 18 after he joined forces with Geoff Steel Racing.

Gilham will initially drive a normally-aspirated BMW, although the squad then hopes to switch to a turbo engine.



IN: Tony Gilham returns at Rockingham

Sport

For more sports news and pictures go to www.kentsport.co.uk

CRICKET

Kent win the race to sign Notts' gentle giant Shreck

By Glenn Pearson

glenn.pearson@archant.co.uk

NEW signing Charlie Shreck has revealed he turned down an offer from another county to join Kent on a two-year deal.

Director of cricket, Paul Farbrace, beat off competition from a rival club, believed to be Essex, to capture the 6ft 7ins fast bowler as the county look to bolster their seam attack for next season.

Shreck also chose to forego a benefit at Nottinghamshire, who allowed the seamer to leave with a year left on his contract at Trent Bridge, in a bid to play first-team cricket. The 33-year-old has played just nine county championship games this summer and with Notts having re-signed several seamers for next season and picked up left-arm quickie Harry Gurney from Leicestershire, he felt his options would be limited further.

"I want to come and play," he said. "I was offered some cricket here (Notts) but not enough really; six to eight or

even 10 games a year at my age isn't right. I would like to put some more in and hopefully get some more out.

"That's how first of all (Notts coach) Mick Newell let me start looking around. He has known me for a long time and he knows I want to be playing cricket. I'm not motivated by a lot else than playing cricket and doing well. He understands why I was getting a little bit annoyed at playing just five or six games or basically being a replacement for some of the seamers and the younger guys at Notts.

"The move provides a new challenge and I get a chance to play some cricket and hopefully help Kent back up to Division One."

Shreck, who was spotted by Notts playing minor counties cricket for Cornwall in 2003, admitted there was interest from elsewhere, but a meeting with Farbrace helped persuade him that Kent was his best move. The tall fast bowler is no stranger to the county having played for Kent during a short-



All pictures: ADY KERRY

TALL ORDER: Kent beat another county in signing Charlie Shreck

term loan deal at the start of this season and he said that also helped make his mind up.

"I met Paul Farbrace about a month ago and he had a lot of good ideas and I liked the sound of where he was going with it," Shreck said. "There's Mark Ealham there as well and

I played with him for six years at Notts and it's nice to have a friendly face about the place.

"Having an introduction to the dressing room and knowing how it works and what goes on is a good deciding point. It looked a happy dressing room with a lot of potential."

CRICKET

County tickled pink for history-making game

NEXT week's final game of the season between Kent and Glamorgan will see the St Lawrence Ground make history when it hosts the first ever championship match under floodlights.

Also set to make its debut in the day-night LV= County Championship Division Two game is a pink ball, which has been trialled by the MCC for the last three years as part of plans to develop a suitable future plan for Test cricket.

All four days of the game, which starts on Monday, will now begin at the later time of 2pm and end at 9pm. The floodlights will be turned on from 5.30pm.

The England and Wales Cricket Board's initiative has created great interest, which looks set to benefit Kent when the eyes of the cricketing world will be on them next week.

With gates for championship games, played during the week in working hours, dwindling, it's seen as a way of potentially



IN THE PINK: Next week's ball

making matches more accessible for cricket fans.

Kent's chief executive, Jamie Clifford, is pleased the historic game will be played at Canterbury and is interested to see how it's received.

He said: "I think in a tough market you have to consider how you do things and I think we'll come out of this with a knowledge of not only how the cricket aspect works, but its appeal to those who might want to come and watch a bit of cricket after work."



LIGHTS: St Lawrence will host first floodlit championship fixture



DEAL: Kent batsman Sam Northeast has signed a new one-year contract with the county

CRICKET

Sam's keeping options open

SAM Northeast says the future of several players out of contract at the end of next season played a part in his decision to only sign a one-year deal at Kent.

The batsman ended speculation about his future by extending his contract by 12 months this week. However, the 21-year-old chose not to take up Kent's offer of a longer deal, explaining that he wants to see what the future holds with the likes of Darren Stevens, Martin van Jaarsveld and James Tredwell entering the final year of their contracts next season.

"The club wanted me to stay for longer and it was my decision to sign just the one year, but it's not a case of one year and then I'm off, it just gives me that flexibility to see where the club's at come the end of next year," Northeast said. "There's a lot of people out of contract at the

end of next season so it will be interesting to see where the club goes. If the club is not in a great place then you have to think about your future. But I want to play at Kent and have always wanted to."

The Kent Academy graduate was keen to stress his decision should not be seen as a 'stay of execution' but one that means he can keep his options open. Rumours doing the rounds during the summer were that Durham were interested in signing the former England under-19 man, but Northeast insists he never contemplated moving away from St Lawrence.

"I haven't looked elsewhere. If I wanted to leave I would have had a look, but I genuinely didn't look because this is the place I want to play next year," he said.

"It's good to know where the future is at and I've said that I love

playing at Kent and as long as the environment is right and I feel like I am progressing then I was always going to sign. I want to play somewhere that is going to forward my game and get the best out of me and at the moment I feel that's at Kent.

"I'm happy that I can progress as a player here and I think with the redevelopment and the young players here, it is going to be a good place in the future."

Jamie Clifford, Kent's chief executive, is pleased the club have signed a player that has come through the system, and said there was no concern about the length of deal Northeast wanted to sign.

He said: "It's not a long-term commitment but if that works for him and it works for us I don't mind sitting down next year and saying 'Sam, what's it going to be now?'. I've got no problem with that at all."

GILLINGHAM

Jack of all trades keen to put nightmare behind him

By Glenn Pearson

glenn.pearson@archant.co.uk

VERSATILE Gillingham defender Danny Jackman says he is "mortified" by what he describes as a "disastrous" second spell at the club, but is determined to show he has a future at Priestfield.

The 28-year-old has been plagued by injury since returning to the club under former Gills manager Mark Stimson in 2009.

A dislocated shoulder restricted him to just 21 appearances, while a knee injury picked up at the start of the last campaign meant he only played 17 games under Andy Hessenthaler last season.

An injury-free pre-season this year has stood Jackman in good stead, and despite losing out to Joe Martin for the left-back spot in the side in the first five games of the season, Jackman was recalled for last weekend's 1-0 defeat to Shrewsbury. He was also expected to line up against Accrington Stanley on Saturday, before this newspaper went to press, after impressing on his first start of the season.

Jackman, looking back over his second spell at Gillingham, admits it has been a tough period.

"I came back under the previous manager and within a week or two I injured my shoulder," he said.

"It was the same last season when I had a couple of injuries in pre-season and it took me until January for my first start.

"It has been a disastrous comeback which I'm mortified about because I pinned a lot of hopes on coming back and doing well, but sometimes things don't go to plan and you've just got to get your head down and battle through it.

"A lot of people forget where you have been and what you have been through, but you don't become a bad player overnight, which is something I have always said.

"I am confident in my own ability, if I can get a good run of games and I have had a good pre-season, there's no reason why I can't get back to my best."

Jackman was reported to have been transfer-listed before the start of the season, something Gillingham strongly denied.



Picture: ADY KERRY

DETERMINED: Danny Jackman is hoping for a run of games at Gillingham

It was enough to unsettle the former Northampton and Stockport man, who says he knew nothing about it at the time.

"I came in one day for training and a couple of the lads made me aware in the press it said I was on the transfer list," he said. "The manager pulled me in and said he didn't know where it had come from and that I wasn't on the transfer list.

"I don't know whether things were being said to try and get me out, you just don't know where these things come from. It's frustrating because you think 'what's going on here' especially when you think you are doing well.

"To then be told that can unsettle you a bit, but I can't dictate what gets written and if people say things to certain people it's out of my hands."

Loan window last chance to sign a so-far elusive striker

ONE final chance remains for Gillingham to find a striking partner for Danny Kedwell after the loan window opened this week.

Gills boss Andy Hessenthaler was unable to sign a forward before the transfer window closed last week, leaving him

with just the option of a loan player to fill in as a replacement for the injured Adam Birchall.

He has his sights set on a striker at a Championship club, but admitted while a deal could be struck, the stumbling block is likely to be



SEARCHING: Gillingham boss Andy Hessenthaler

whether the player wants to play in League Two.

"There is one player we really like and I think we can get it done, but it's whether the player wants to drop to this level," Hessenthaler said. "That's one of the problems for us, there are players we

have identified that are at higher league clubs that are not playing, but do they see themselves at a higher level? That's the problems we are getting."

Meanwhile Birchall is set to have his brace removed in two weeks and will begin rehabilitation.

EBBSFLEET UNITED

Daish on the hunt for reinforcements to bolster shallow Ebbsfleet squad

EBBSFLEET United's playing staff is already stretched to the limit with the football season not yet a month old.

Manager Liam Daish, did well to retain most of his key players over the summer, but if the Fleet are to survive in Conference Premier they must expand a squad which has been reduced to the bare bones after just a handful of games.

Injuries to Paul Lorraine and Clint Easton left Daish with only one recognised centre-back for last Saturday's game against Barrow, prompting him to name 40-year-old as-

sistant manager Paul McCarthy among the substitutes.

"I've been saying it's been difficult for a while now and it catches up with you," he said.

"I had 15 players available for selection. It was a tough decision [to put McCarthy on the bench] because I hate to think what would have happened if I'd made a substitution at centre-half. Luckily that didn't happen, but it's as clear as the nose on our faces that the squad is way short."

Daish failed in his attempts to bring in fresh blood before the transfer window shut last

Wednesday. He is now hoping to utilise the loan window, but that, too, may prove tricky.

Signing Johnny Herd and Alex Stavrinou days before the start of the season depended on pledges by fans and the club's online owners, MyFootballClub, but such appeals are not a feasible long-term solution.

Drastic times often call for drastic measures, but Daish, 42, ruled out a playing return.

"I'd love to, if I could, but I just can't move these days," he said. "When you stop playing, it stops forever and you can never turn the clock back."

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL FOCUS

WITH FRED ATKINS

Non-starter day

“ONE of the surest ways to tell if an industry is in decline is when it hires a PR company to revive sales by declaring it's 'National Doughnut Day' or 'Adopt a Budgie Week'.

If last Saturday's Non-League Day is anything to go by, the state of semi-professional football could be very sickly indeed. Despite ideal weather conditions and the absence of any football in the top two divisions, there was little discernible affect on attendances, particularly among Kent League clubs, five of whom attracted less than 100 fans through their gates.

The Conference's main initiative was to organise a 'three-match hop', staggering kick-off times at three grounds to allow fans the chance to watch three games, including Dover's trip to Chelmsford.

This was the kind of marketing offer that appeals only to a particular genre of non-league uber geek, the equivalent of the Star Wars fanatics who used to spend nine hours watching the original three films in a single cinema sitting.

Which is a pity, because Dover's 3-2 win showcased many of the things great about non-league, even though the crowd of 1,031, was no higher than it would have been on any other day for two well supported sides. The kind of person who actually wants to sandwich this with trips to Bishop's Stortford and Braintree is probably, if we're being kind, unburdened by family commitments.

The eminence grise behind Non-League Day, James Doe was evangelical, saying: "Given the current financial climate, clubs outside the Football League need all the support they can get, so your presence at the gate will be genuinely appreciated. With tickets and refreshments at a fraction of the cost, what's stopping you?"

Well how about this. Admission is £15 at Ebbsfleet, £12 at Dartford and Dover. Charlton will charge £5 a seat for their game with Chesterfield, a brilliant marketing ploy, but the equivalent of seeing Tesco open a superstore in a struggling High Street. When you're competing against an aggressive price cutting strategy like this you need to be armed with more than a press release in which 'ESPN football pundit Chris Waddle' says what a brilliant idea it is to watch your local team.

There are any number of ways in which the viewing experience at a non-league game is vastly superior to that of the armchair fan, and the absence of pundits like Waddle and Jamie (Literally) Redknapp is one of them.

If the FA wanted to do more to help semi-professional clubs it could start by allowing more money to trickle down the divisions. At the start of this season Manchester City were paying an estimated £350,000 per week to players who weren't even eligible for the Premier League, a sum that could run a non-league side for several years – and let's not even start on the subject of Chris Smalling. My suggestion? Let's start by holding a National Peter Drury Day.

”



OUT: Paul Lorraine has not played this season

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